

SCOTLAND TEAM GROUP **SHOOT!** 28p

OPINION POLL

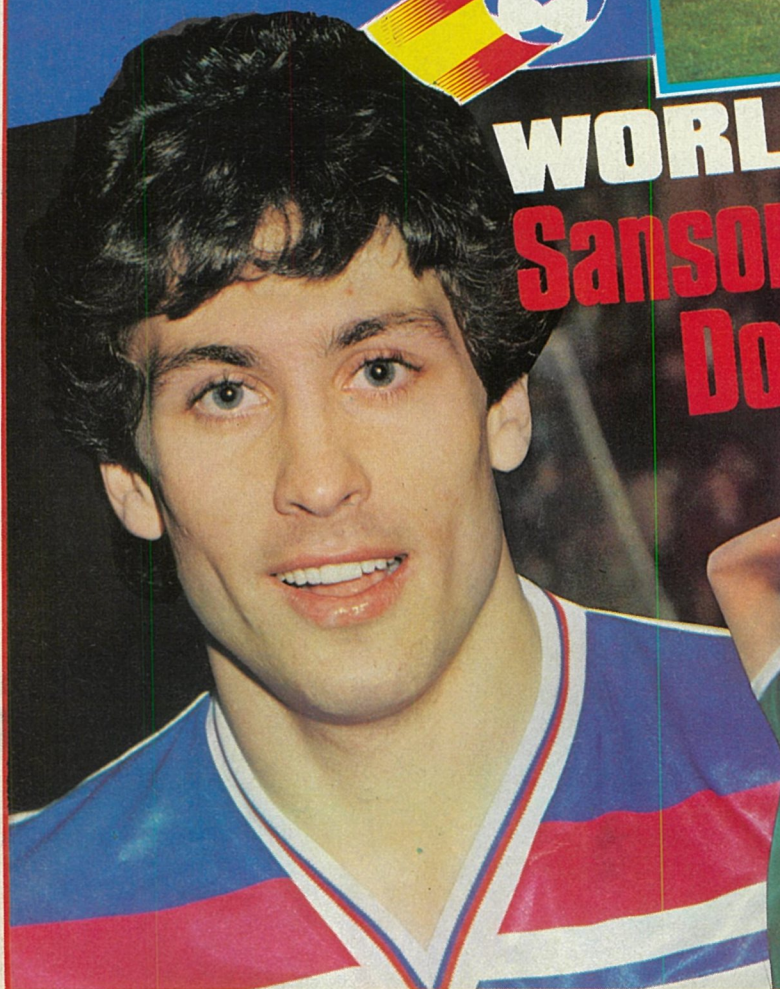
12th JUNE, 1982

BRAZIL WINNERS!



WORLD CUP KEY MEN

Sansom-Hansen
Donaghy



McDERMOTT: 'MY ANFIELD AGONY'

Ban these imports

MANY British born players will receive unemployment benefit this summer after losing their jobs with League clubs.

Yet managers in the four Divisions persist in signing players of mediocre ability from foreign clubs.

It is not fair, and it does not make sense.

It is a safe bet that several new foreigners will be paraded at the start of next season, while British born players search desperately for new clubs after getting the sack.

Few Birmingham City fans will weep for Bud Brocken, released from St Andrews with several other players by Ron Saunders.

Signed by former manager Jim Smith from Dutch club Willem II, Brocken did little or nothing in his stay of less than a year to suggest it was worth introducing him at the expense of home produced players.

Birmingham are not the only League club happy to engage undistinguished foreign players.

SHOOT view!

What a pity that Ivan Katalinic and Ivan Golac (Southampton), Petar Borota (Chelsea) and Raddy Avramovic (Notts County), all born in Yugoslavia, can keep out bright young British prospects at a time of high unemployment. Are there no youngsters as good, or better, than that fairly unspectacular group?

For every successful import, such as Ardiles and Villa of Tottenham, there are many misguided transfer deals.

Not a murmur of disapproval would greet Diego Maradona's arrival at Manchester United. Vladimir Petrovic joins Arsenal from Red Star Belgrade with the good wishes of everyone. They are stars, guaranteed to boost attendances.

British players only become angry when they see non-entities from Europe earning a good living in the Football League when their unfortunate home-born colleagues look for work in the struggle to keep their wives and families in comfort.

They could be the

BRITAIN'S three World Cup representatives, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, prepare to take on the cream of international opposition armed with a number of players whose names are known and respected throughout the game.

The respective camps of France, Czechoslovakia and Kuwait know all they need to know about England stars Kevin Keegan, Trevor Francis, Trevor Brooking and Glenn Hoddle.

The USSR, Brazil and New Zealand have no doubt compiled impressive dossiers on Scotland's Kenny Dalglish, Steve Archibald, Joe Jordan and Alan Rough.

And Northern Ireland's Pat Jennings, Martin O'Neill, Gerry Armstrong and Sammy McIlroy will be no strangers to Spain, Yugoslavia or even Honduras.

It is inevitable that the spotlight will continue to fall on the elected

'stars' within each of the the three squads.

Much rests on their gifted shoulders. They can expect special treatment on and off the pitch and, if everyone is prepared to be realistically honest, managers and playing colleagues will often look to these players for that little bit extra in the face of adversity.

But all three squads contain players who will influence the competition more than many people anticipate; players who could be described as the 'Shadow Stars'.

SHOOT names Kenny Sansom, Alan Hansen and Mal Donaghy as the three players whose specific talents could prove invaluable and, indeed, decisive during the opening games of the World Cup.

England open their challenge against France in Bilbao on June 16.

The French have shown a

SANSOM...

BRITAIN'S



key players in Spain

marked return to the skilful, attractive, attacking game that made them popular, and undoubtedly unlucky to be eliminated in the 1978 Finals.

And England's defence, especially at its centre, is not as settled, nor as disciplined as it should be.

A marked and valid criticism is that the overall age of the likes of Mick Mills, Dave Watson and Phil Neal may leave them exposed to sheer pace and youth.

This is where the speed, positional sense and overall

of them in check and still have the stamina to support the left side of midfield and attack.

He admitted that much of his enthusiasm during his Crystal Palace days led to early tiring.

He failed to pace himself correctly and therefore became exposed in the late stages of games.

But with Howe's astute guidance, Sansom has formed a very dangerous understanding with Graham Rix at Arsenal and could provide England with good, accurate service from wide while

also nailing one of the chief French weapons.

Alan Hansen has proven his quality as a central-defender many times over with League Champions and former European Cup holders Liverpool.

He can cope with foreign forwards and reveals a Franz Beckenbauer-type quality of calm authority on the ball.

At a time when Scotland are moving towards a new era of play — no longer the undoubtedly gifted but too often undisciplined headless chickens of international football — Hansen looks tailor-made for the role of spare defender or sweeper.

While qualifying the Scots produced a number of impressive 'functional' performances that brought 1-0 wins in Sweden and Israel and 0-0 results against Portugal and Northern Ireland.



HANSEN...DONAGHY

SHADOW STARS

defensive finesse of Sansom could prove so influential.

His patchy form during the qualifying games, especially in Switzerland, is a thing of the past.

The discipline acquired from playing under Don Howe at Arsenal — and now England also — has made Camberwell-born Sansom a player of genuine class.

His surging runs from left-back; his ability to operate almost as an orthodox winger and his willingness to take men on, reach the line and provide accurate crosses make Sansom the type of player capable of upsetting the French.

France have a number of fast and skilful wingers, players capable of opening England's defence if not watched, tracked and forced wide into dead-end runs.

Six, Lacombe, Rocheteau and Zenier can all operate on the flanks and Sansom is now the best equipped full-back to hold any one

Kenny Sansom (left) has the pace which men like Dave Watson (below) no longer possess. Scotland's Alan Hansen (right) and Northern Ireland's Mal Donaghy (far right) will also be key World Cup figures.



Partnered by a strong, no-nonsense centre-half such as Aston Villa's Allan Evans, Hansen is the player who can organise the Scottish defence, maintain a level of discipline under pressure, read situations early enough to defuse them and break through on the ball to provide the type of extra, unmarked attacker that gave West Germany and Italy such a strong extra weapon over the past ten years.

Hansen is a player accustomed to pressure and winning. He is adaptable, quietly confident and very skilful.

Counter-Attack

He can pass the ball, switch, play and turn defence into counter-attack quickly and efficiently.

Against the skills of Zico, Socrates and Paulo Isidoro of Brazil, in their second World Cup game, Scotland will need more than courage and willing muscle.

The pace and technique of the Brazilians was all too evident during their highly successful European tour and, frankly, Scottish manager Jock Stein acknowledges that his side have been drawn in the toughest of all World Cup groups.

So it is Alan Hansen's long-striding, confident style that's required to ensure gaps are plugged and possession is used to the creative maximum.

Northern Ireland's hopes of reaching the second stages of the competition rest on two factors — their ability to recapture the whole-hearted yet disciplined style that earned qualification while scoring only six goals en route, and manager Billy Bingham's ability to convince his small squad that reaching Spain alone is not any longer something acceptable as the job well done.

With Martin O'Neill playing the best football of his career for promoted Norwich City, Sammy McIlroy on a new lease of life with Stoke City and big Gerry Armstrong bubbling with

confidence after helping Watford into the First Division, the Irish have some cards to play.

And the widely respected figure of goalkeeper Pat Jennings will give the forwards of Spain, Yugoslavia and Honduras a few sleepless hours.

But the Irish need something extra, and Luton's impressive and versatile Mal Donaghy can provide the answer.

Belfast-born Donaghy was one of Luton's most consistent and effective players during their unstoppable march to the Second Division Championship.

Playing in a variety of back-four positions he chipped in with no less than nine goals and has also shown that he can be an effective midfield operator, both in an attacking role and doing the job of man-to-man marking.

Quality

Bingham knows he has an international player of quality who can play in either full-back position or at the heart of his recently brittle defence.

He also knows that his team is never going to barnstorm the likes of Yugoslavia — their opening opponents in Zaragoza on June 17 — or Spain with attacking power.

Irish hopes rest on their ability to run, chase, tackle, work tirelessly for a handful of chances and hope one or two are taken.

That's been their style for years and accepted as their strength.

Given a definite role, Donaghy can become the Irish player that Yugoslavia and Spain struggle to pin down.

The level of success achieved by our three nations will be a direct reflection of the work put in by all the players.

But within each camp keep an eye on our trio of Shadow Stars.



SHOOT'S SPECIAL WORLD CUP OPINION POLL

We asked a representative of all 24 World Cup Finalists for their views on the tournament and who will win.

JULIO URIBE
(Peru midfielder)

BRAZIL/W.GERMANY

We'll be the sensation of the World Cup and prove that South American football is still ahead on sheer skill. The only exception is West Germany, who have so many good players that they have a great chance. They've added skill to fitness while we've added fitness to skill. I tip them to meet Brazil in the Final. Could be a good World Cup, with many teams taking a positive attitude.

SAMMY McILROY
(N. Ireland midfielder)

FEARSOME FOURSOME

The first three names that spring to mind are Argentina, Brazil and West Germany. I don't have to explain why. Then Spain, with the tremendous support they'll have, can't be ignored. Home advantage counts for a lot. From our point of view we know we'll have to play to the top of our form if we are to achieve anything. If you don't include Honduras, then it's two from Spain, Yugoslavia and ourselves to reach Round Two. If team spirit counts for anything we'll make it. And we also have the advantage of being used to playing two matches a week under pressure. Recent results have not gone too well for us, but it's the results in Spain which matter.

KONSTANTIN BESKOV
(USSR manager)

MANY CANDIDATES

A lot can happen in football, but on paper it's Brazil, West Germany and Argentina. Spain have a chance, as they're at home and they don't concede many goals. Brazil have a tough qualifying group, though. We've been working and planning for two years, and our aim is the Semi-Finals at least.

PAUL BAHOKEN
(Cameroon winger)

BRAZIL

I like the South Americans. Not only Brazil and Argentina, but also Peru and Chile. West Germany can't be ignored, though. And France could do well if they add commitment to their skills. Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union could be surprises. I half-heartedly tip Brazil to win, and I'd love to play against them in the Second Round.

FAISAL AL-DAKHIL
(Kuwait midfielder)

BRAZIL

Brazil will win — and I hope they do, for our Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto. They have dynamism and skill and, like us, they'll be at home in the heat. Argentina are serious rivals, but I can't remember them beating Brazil. In Europe, only West Germany rise above the mediocre level of ball skills. That's why we'll qualify from Group Four.

LASZLO FAZEKAS
(Hungary winger)

BRAZIL

Argentina won't retain their title, as they enjoyed important advantages in key matches in 1978. Brazil seem superior. But watch out for the Group Four and Six Qualifiers. And our Group Three rivals Belgium. For me, it's Brazil and West Germany in the Final, and this could be the best-ever World Cup with some exciting and colourful teams playing very different styles of football.

BACK ROW: Waldir Peres, Edevaldo, Luisinho, Edinho, Toninho Cerezo, Junior.
FRONT ROW: Paulo Isidoro, Socrates, Reinaldo, Zico, Eder.



JESUS ZAMORA
(Spain midfielder)

BRAZIL

I must be unoriginal and favour Brazil, West Germany and Argentina in that order. Spain will be the other Semi-Finalist, not because of home advantage, but on merit. My favourite outsiders are France, if they can score more goals away from home. And I'll be keeping a very careful eye on the USSR, Belgium, Scotland and Italy.



ZDENEK NEHODA

ZDENEK NEHODA
(Czechoslovakia captain)

VERY EVEN

After playing Brazil, Argentina and West Germany, I'm not sure they'll win. This could be the most evenly-balanced World Cup of all time, with a dozen sides at the same level. Second Round matches will be terrible, with everybody counting goal difference. We could go a long way, and I have a feeling this World Cup is going to be a box of surprises.

LAKHDAR BELLOUMI
(Algeria midfielder)

ARGENTINA

Uniformity is the keynote in world football these days, and the winners will be a side that can do something special. Our Group Two rivals West Germany, for example. But I go for Argentina, as they have the best player in the world — Diego Maradona.

GUY THYS
(Belgium manager)

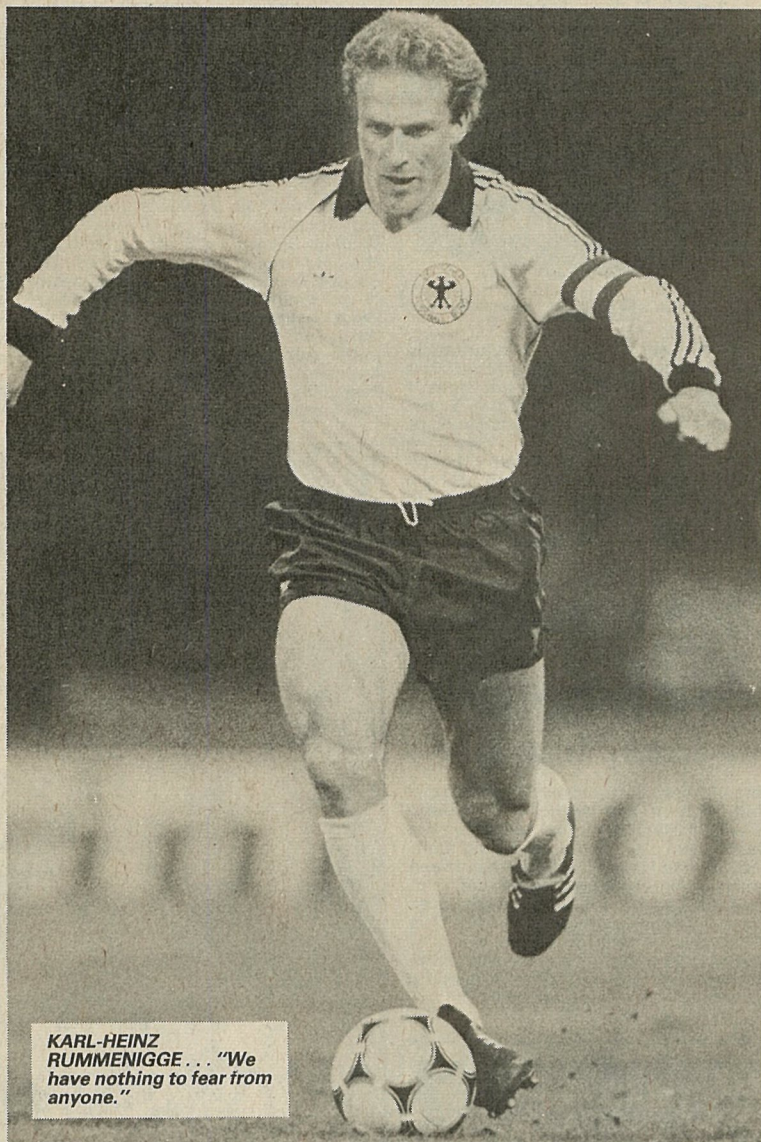
BRAZIL/W. GERMANY

I've already predicted Argentina will beat us 2-0 in the opening game! They'll reach the Second Round, but won't be in the Final. The same as us, I think! I'm expecting surprises in this World Cup — and big ones. Eastern European teams perhaps. Spain would just be one of the bunch if they weren't playing at home. Logically, it's Brazil and West Germany for the Final, but I'm not convinced.

RICARDO MORA
(El Salvador 'keeper)

SOUTH AMERICA

I fear West Germany because of their dynamic style and sheer muscle power. But a South American side can win this time. Our Group Three rivals Argentina are a real world power, and I admire the Brazilians a great deal. These two should meet in the Semi-Finals, and the winner should take the trophy. They can match the Europeans for fitness and their skills are superior.



KARL-HEINZ RUMMENIGGE... "We have nothing to fear from anyone."

KARL-HEINZ RUMMENIGGE
(W. Germany captain)

W. GERMANY

Our recent results show we've nothing to fear from anybody in the world, even though Brazil have beaten us. What we've got to do is to forget everybody else and simply concentrate on getting our own game right, and on being in the right frame of mind for each and every game. If we play our best football, we can win the World Cup.

RAY CLEMENCE
(England goalkeeper)

BRAZIL/W. GERMANY

People aren't giving England much chance, but I'm sure we'll surprise a few of our critics. You can't talk about possible winners without mentioning Brazil and West Germany, although the USSR could be the dark horses. For me it's a chance to possibly test myself against the world's best at the very highest level. Having won so much at club level this could be the last opportunity I have to play in the World Cup Finals and I mean to make the most of it.

DINO ZOFF
(Italy captain)

THE BIG THREE

Argentina, West Germany and Brazil seem superior to the rest — but this means the rest will do everything possible to stop them. Just behind them there's a group of teams who could go all the way if they hit form. Belgium, Poland, Yugoslavia, ourselves... and Spain, who'll be a difficult nut to crack at home. Argentina to win? But I'm far from sure.

HERBERT PROHASKA
(Austria midfielder)

ARGENTINA/W. GERMANY

Teams with an easy passage in the first phase will have better chances of doing well in the Second Round. So West Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain and ourselves stand a good chance, along with Argentina if they beat Belgium in the opening match. Brazil are a super team, but their group is so difficult, I wonder if they can maintain top form for a month. For me, it's Argentina v West Germany in the Final — an unpredictable match.



The world says It's Brazil

ZBIGNIEW BONIEK
(Poland midfielder)

BRAZIL

We can't expect tactical revolutions in Spain. In theory Brazil should beat West Germany in the Final on a hot night in Madrid. I'd tip Spain and the Soviet Union to be the beaten Semi-Finalists. I don't fancy Argentina — I felt we were superior to them in 1978, even though they beat us. Poland could shine if we maintain our form for a month. And France if they show the same spirit as against Holland last November.

MAXIME BOSSIS
(France full-back)

NOT SURE

Brazil, West Germany and Argentina — but without any degree of certainty. The heartening thing is that the favourites play skilful, attacking football. The last two World Cups have been short on entertainment value. Logical, I suppose, with so much at stake these days. People use the words 'the important thing is the result' to justify all sorts of negative football and sheer brutality. I'm hoping 1982 will herald a return to more noble attacking play.

CHELATO
(Honduras manager)

W. GERMANY

Argentina, Brazil and West Germany seem superior. Plus home country Spain. But football is a game where luck, the weather, form, referees, injuries and suspensions can lead to upsets. The Germans have an edge, as they should cruise through Group Two without injuries or suspensions, whereas Brazil and Argentina can't expect to do the same. Tactically, world soccer is evening out, so an outsider could string together enough results to cause a major surprise.

DANNY McGRAIN
(Scotland captain)

LEVELLING OUT

I can see the Finals being like a game of chess, with many games 'played' on blackboards before the kick-off. They could turn out to be a tactician's dream. As much as anything I expect to see a levelling out, with less between the top and the bottom teams than usual. I'll be surprised if anyone gets really hammered. I must believe Scotland can win, but I want us to come home with our heads held high whatever happens. The same goes for our fans. I'm aware that things went wrong on and off the park in 1978, but the same won't happen again.

RAMON DIAZ
(Argentina striker)

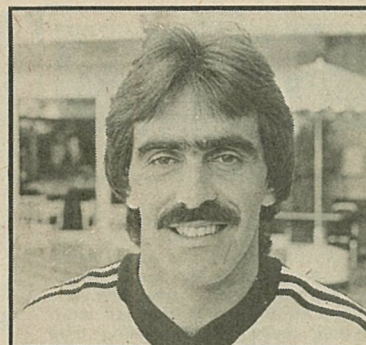
ARGENTINA

Menotti has told us this is going to be our toughest test. In Group Three Belgium are among Europe's best, and Hungary have improved since 1978. The Second Round is going to be real death-or-glory stuff. Even so, I think we'll beat West Germany in the Final, with Brazil third and Spain fourth. No one can match our quality in depth. Maradona, Kempes, Ardiles, Bertoni, Gallego, Passarella, Fillol... I dream of scoring the winning goal in the Final.

IVICA SURJAK
(Yugoslavia captain)

BRAZIL

Several teams could go all the way if they get through tough qualifying groups. Especially the Group Four and Six qualifiers. The Czechs have improved a lot. France have lots of talent. Spain have home advantage. There are so many permutations. But Brazil are my choice. They have so much skill in all departments. Argentina seem too erratic to win seven games. Watch for Yugoslavia and West Germany — though their problem will be the heat.



STEVE SUMNER

STEVE SUMNER
(New Zealand captain)

W. GERMANY

Our own group has got to be the toughest in the whole tournament, and the final outcome of the matches in Seville and Malaga could have a significant bearing on the destination of the World Cup. Other teams will have a much easier passage through the First Round, and West Germany are one of them. I can't see anyone beating them, as they've got skill, aggression and overwhelming physical strength.

LUIS SANTIBANEZ
(Chile manager)

'USUAL' FOUR

There are about a dozen teams of roughly the same level, and if they manage to qualify for the second phase, anything is possible. Matches and even group placings will be decided on small mistakes or just luck. On paper, the Semi-Finals should be Spain v West Germany and Argentina v Brazil, but this World Cup just isn't predictable. The only thing I'm sure of is that we'll see surprises. We could be one.



MAXIME BOSSIS...
Hoping for a return to attacking play.

THE BOYS FROM BRAZIL

	W.C. No.	NAME	CLUB	AGE	CAPS	GOALS SCORED
Goalkeepers	1	WALDIR PERES Arruda	Sao Paulo FC	30	22	—
	12	PAULO SERGIO de Oliveira Lima	Botafogo FR	26	2	—
	22	CARLOS Roberto Gallo	A.A. Ponte Preta	26	10	—
Defenders	2	Jose LEANDRO Souza Ferreira	C.R. Flamengo	21	4	1
	13	EDEVALDO de Freitas	S.C. Internacional	24	16	1
	3	Jose OSCAR Bernardi	Sao Paulo F.C.	28	39	—
	14	Alcides Fonseca Junior (JUNINHO)	A.A. Ponte Preta	22	5	—
	4	Luis Carlos Ferreira (LUISINHO)	C.A. Mineiro	23	21	1
	16	EDINHO Nazareth Filho	Fluminense F.C.	26	41	3
	6	Leovigildo Lins da Gama JUNIOR	C.R. Flamengo	26	32	5
Midfield	17	Pedro Luis Vicencote (PEDRINHO)	C.R. Vasco da Gama	24	5	—
	8	SOCRATES Brasileiro S.S.V. Oliveira	S.C. Corinthians Paulista	28	34	14
	5	Antonio Carlos Cerezo (TONINHO CEREZO)	C.A. Mineiro	27	54	9
	10	Arthur Antunes Coimbra (ZICO)	C.R. Flamengo	29	56	44
	19	Carlos RENATO Frederico	Sao Paulo F.C.	25	14	4
	15	Paulo Roberto FALCAO	A.C. Roma	28	19	2
Forwards	18	João BATISTA da Silva	Gremio Porto Alegre	27	31	—
	7	PAULO ISIDORO de Jesus	Gremio Porto Alegre	28	28	3
	20	Antonio de Oliveira Filho (CARECA)	Guarani F.C.	22	2	—
	9	Sergio Bernardino (SERGINHO)	Sao Paulo F.C.	27	12	7
	11	EDER Aleixo de Assis	Atlético Mineiro	25	20	2
	21	DIRCEU José Guimarães	Atlético Madrid	29	30	5

'CHAMPIONS'

— But we'll still have to fight for our places'

WITH a shining new Championship medal in my collection, and being selected for Ron Greenwood's World Cup squad, you'd think that everything in the Phil Thompson garden was rosy. You'd be wrong.

My future at Anfield is far from assured, even though I have just helped Liverpool to their record 13th title win.

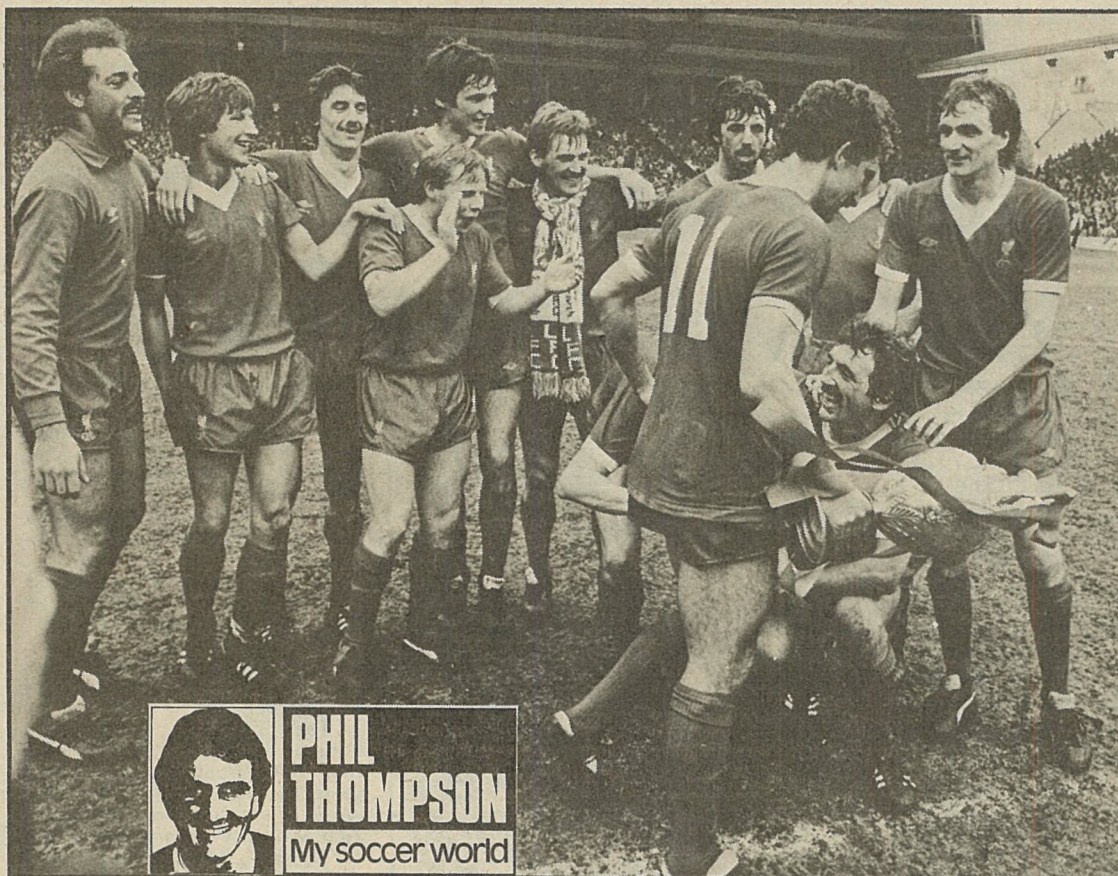
But I'm not the odd one out. Everyone in the Championship winning side is aware of the Anfield fact of life that a place in the side at the end of a successful season does not guarantee you your shirt when the big kick-off comes at the start of the next.

Reserves

If you want an example to prove my point, then I'll remind you that although Alan Kennedy scored the goal in Paris in 1981 that won the European Cup for the third time for Liverpool, he was in the reserves for the start to last season.

Alan won back his place, and ended the campaign with another Championship medal, but he's not taking his place for granted either.

Whether we're selected or not will depend on how we perform in pre-season games. If a new signing



'Ronnie Whelan — the perfect player'

or someone in the reserves is looking sharper, and better equipped for the long slog from August to May, then he'll be preferred.

The team comes first and foremost at Anfield. There's no room for the sentimental approach which has been the downfall of many former great clubs who continued to give first team places to players past their peak.

The hard-headed attitude of the "Boot Room Boys", as the boss Bob Paisley and his assistants — Ronnie Moran, Joe Fagan and Roy Evans are called — is the secret of Liverpool's success.

Half the credit for our Championship triumph must go to this "team" behind the team. They keep the Liverpool machine running smoothly along the lines laid down by the late, great Bill Shankly. The players change, but the system remains. A system that's rarely beaten.

Simplicity is the keynote at Anfield. There's nothing complicated about the people or the set-up. We're just one big family, and mostly a happy one. Any problems are settled behind doors and not for public ears.

The boss doesn't go around fining players or disciplining them in other ways. There's no need for that. We're treated as men, and we're trusted to

behave like them both on — and off — the field.

We all have tremendous respect for Bob Paisley, a quiet man who believes in letting his actions do his talking. When he does speak it's an education for other managers.

Football's all about timing, and Bob seems to have every second of a season weighed up. He brought in our youngsters at the right time to blend with us "old stagers".

Their legs and our brains formed a tremendous combination that brought us 11 consecutive wins in our title run-in.

Punishing

Bob paid them a big tribute when he said: "The youngsters have given the older players an extra yard to work in and they have revelled in it. Earlier the older players were controlling games for us without punishing opponents. The youngsters have the extra pace to run the opposition back to their goal."

The "new boys" gain confidence through talking to us before games, particularly big ones. I remember one saying to me he felt tense and nervous in the Wembley dressing-room for the League Cup Final. "If it's any consolation, so am I," I said.

I've just enough space to single out one very special young man.

Ronnie Whelan is the nearest thing to a perfect player I've seen.

He reminds me of Martin Peters, the 1966 World Cup winner whom manager Sir Alf Ramsey said was ten years ahead of his time. You name the skill — Ronnie's got it!

He scored the third goal against Spurs in the 3-1 win at Anfield that clinched the Championship. Ironically, the 'keeper he beat was Ray Clemence, the man who's shared so many good times with us Liverpool lads in the past.

Ray and I had played together for years. We'd been through fire and water for Liverpool. I just couldn't resist running to the Kop end and giving him a big hug!

That moment was the climax to an unforgettable week. My wife Margaret had presented me with a son, Philip Glen, and naturally I've donated my medal to him.

Winning the Championship gives us another crack at the European Cup. I'm confident we're shaping up for a repeat of the "double" win we did in 1977!

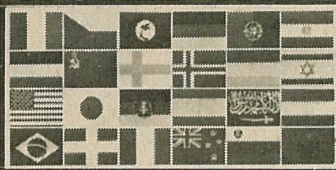
The battle for team places will be hotter than ever before!

Phil Thompson

World Cup countdown...

COME on then — which country's squad includes Solomon Nassar, James Steward, Domingo Drummond, Anthony Costly, Gilberto Yearwood, Antonio Laing and Jimmy Bailey? If you live in Northern Ireland and you don't know the answer, shame on you! It's your Group Five rivals Honduras.

WORLD WIDE



Compiled by CHRIS DAVIES

countdown...

ONGUENE'S BACK

CAMEROON fans gleefully celebrated the 2-1 win over Senegal, because it heralded the return of legendary striker Jean Manga Onguene after two ligament operations.

A few months ago, it looked like the end of the road for the 35-year-old Canon Yaounde goalscorer who was voted African Footballer of the Year in 1980.

But he's fought back to fitness, and the crowd went wild when he opened the scoring against Senegal in the eighth minute, and then hit the winner 18 minutes before the end.

Cameroon manager Jean Vincent may now be tempted to play Manga Onguene and Milla as a two-pronged strike force in Spain.

'England's preparations amateurish'

ARGENTINIAN Ossie Ardiles is severely critical of England's preparations for the World Cup Finals.

Ardiles, who will have spent ten weeks in preparation with the World Champions before the first ball is kicked in Spain, is convinced England's build-up to the Finals is a major barrier to their hopes of success.

Ardiles pulls no punches in his criticisms. He says: "England's preparation is amateurish, almost criminal."

"If Argentina prepared for international matches in such a way, there would be a revolt."

"I had time once I finished playing for Tottenham to relax with the Argentine training squad."

"Of course, we were preparing for the Finals, but I still had the opportunity to rest a little, compared to playing so much football in London."

"For the other players representing England such as Glenn Hoddle, it could be a problem. England's busy programme is a big disadvantage to their national side."

Whatever the problems England will face in Spain, Ardiles

SAYS ARDILES



believes his nation is capable of holding on to the coveted Cup.

He believes quality players in sufficient number will be a decisive factor in the World Champions' bid for more success this summer.

Ardiles says the World Champions will build their side around the brilliant Diego Maradona.

"Always it is good to find one player and create your side with him as the base," he says.

"We did that in 1978 when Mario Kempes was the man; this

time, it will be Maradona.

"England should be doing the same thing with Glenn Hoddle. He could do the same job for England that he does so well for Tottenham."

"But not after two or three matches. He needs time to learn that job."

If the Champions are to defend their title so well, which sides does Ardiles respect as their greatest challengers?

"I believe Brazil, West Germany and Spain will be the biggest dangers."

"The Brazilians have some brilliant individual players and they have been playing like a team as well. They have many world class players, not only Zico, whom everyone picks out."

"Socrates, Junior and Paulo Isidoro are also very important players for them — without doubt, they are a most dangerous side."

"Spain could be very useful and as the home nation they will have a clear advantage."

"And West Germany have a very good side, with fine individual players like Breitner, Rummenigge and Stielike."

"Brazil may be our biggest danger but I think we can beat them. Our preparation of more than two months in training camp before the Finals will be most important to us."

'Journalists know nothing'

AT a televised football symposium in Santiago, Chile, Argentine manager Cesar Luis Menotti commented: "Ninety-seven per cent of Argentine sporting journalists know little or nothing about football."

Chile's manager Luis Santibañez cautiously agreed, saying: "In Chile a high percentage of sports journalists are also lacking in knowledge of the game."

Peru's veteran manager Tim added: "I've been in football for nearly half a century, and 15 years ago I decided not to read any more newspaper reports. Every day I have football for breakfast, football for lunch, football for dinner and football to drink. Then I go to bed and dream about football. I've yet to meet a journalist who could teach me anything about football..."

JOSÉ GERALDO de SOUZA, 24, a Brazilian, is on schedule for his bicycle trip to Spain for the World Cup. Leaving Brazil on 26th November, 1981, he has pedalled through Argentina, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, the USA, England, Holland, Belgium, France, and — soon — Spain.

Wrong leg

ARGENTINA's midfielder Americo Gallego nearly had his World Cup hopes scotched by his skipper and room-mate Daniel Passarella.

Passarella dived into a fearsome tackle on Gabrich, the striker in the Youth Team who were taking on the national side in a practice match.

Unfortunately, Passarella chose the wrong leg and hit Gallego instead...

BELGIUM WORRY

BAD news for Belgium. They must already face Argentina in the opening game without the suspended sweeper Walter Meeuws.

Now Rene Vandereycken, who was to replace him, has been injured. The Belgian international, who plays for Genoa in Italy, started the recent friendly against Bulgaria as sweeper, but was injured after just seven minutes... and now faces a fight to be fit by June 13th.

In the previous friendly, against Rumania, Vandereycken (right), normally a midfielder, found it hard to play at the back and manager Guy Thys was hoping to give the player as much experience as possible in the defence before facing Argentina.

Now, Belgium are back to square one.



● Adding a touch of glamour to the World Cup is this young West German fan with her Paul Breitner T-shirt.

World Cup countdown... World Cup countdown...

41 games live in Italy

ANY readers who cannot go to Spain for the World Cup would be advised to spend their holidays in Italy.

The Italian channels have come up with a TV package that means that anyone in Italy will be able to watch 41 of the World Cup games live and in full.

The remaining 11 matches will be filmed and screened later, and in addition to the matches the Italians plan more than 20 hours during the Finals of reviews, interviews and discussions on their boxes.

FEVERISH activity in the transfer market before the World Cup, with Italian clubs grabbing potential stars before they have the chance to shine (and push up their prices) in Spain.

Juventus have snatched Boniek (Poland) and Platini (France, left).

Udinese have signed Surjak (Yugoslavia) and Edinho (Brazil).

Genova have snapped up Leguia

ON THE MOVE

(Peru) and Peters (Holland).

Avellino have bought Barbadillo (Peru) and Skov (Denmark).

And Argentines Passarella, Diaz and Hernandez are heading for Fiorentina, Napoli and Milan respectively. Total cost is around £6 million.

The only snag with the Argentines is that E.E.C. import sanctions arising from the Falklands crisis may cause problems.

MARADONA BLAST



SPAIN'S RECORD

HISTORY says that host nation Spain should have no trouble in qualifying from Group Five.

Although they've never played Honduras, the Spaniards' record against Yugoslavia and Northern Ireland is very favourable.

Just for the record, here's Spain's record against the other Finalists — and it's easy to see who they want to avoid!

Opponents	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
Yugoslavia	11	5	4	2	11	8
N. Ireland	5	3	2	0	12	4
USSR	3	1	1	1	3	3
Poland	4	3	0	1	11	6
Peru	1	1	0	0	3	1
Italy	21	6	8	7	21	30
England	14	4	1	9	17	31
Hungary	7	4	2	1	11	9
France	18	10	4	4	45	17
Scotland	7	3	2	2	14	13
Chile	5	4	1	0	13	3
Czechoslovakia	8	2	1	5	5	9
Brazil	5	1	1	3	5	10
Belgium	13	4	4	5	22	17
Austria	7	3	1	3	14	14
Argentina	7	2	1	4	5	7
West Germany	11	3	3	5	12	15

DIEGO MARADONA is at loggerheads with the Argentine Press, who have criticised his poor showing in recent internationals.

"The Press must understand that I am not a happiness machine, only a normal human being and having the right to play badly sometimes. I am really fed up with them. Wait until Spain and I will thrust the criticism down their throats. I am physically well and I am not playing for myself, but for the team," he says.

● Maradona relaxes with his girlfriend Claudia during a break in training.

Rip-off prices

AMUSING to hear the pathetic excuses offered by World Cup travel monopoly Mundiespana after cancelling 70 per cent (yes, 70 per cent) of the hotel beds they'd reserved for fans on the Costa del Sol.

They're now complaining about "the low level of spending power among Scottish fans."

What they don't mention is the Scots' reluctance to pay rip-off prices...

Brazil's problem

BRAZIL manager Tele Santana has finally named his 22 men for the World Cup in Spain and the list includes two "foreigners"

— Falcao and Dirceu. Falcao is on leave from Roma, while Dirceu had to forego the £12,000 that Atletico Madrid owed him in order to obtain his release from the club.

The question now is: who is going to substitute for Toninho Cerezo in the first game against the Soviet Union?

Falcao (right), who came from so far away, or Batista, who was recalled after a period of inactivity following a broken leg?

Cerezo can't play in the first game because he was suspended for one game in the World Cup after being sent-off last year in a qualifying tie.

And will Cerezo regain his place if either Falcao or Batista do their job well against the Russians?

Tele's 22: Waldir Peres, Paulo Sérgio and Carlos (goalkeepers); Leandro, Edevaldo, Oscar, Juninho, Luisinho, Edinho, Junior, Pedrinho (defenders); Cerezo, Batista, Falcao, Sócrates, Renato, Zico, (midfielders); Paulo Isidoro (outside right), Careca and Serginho (centre-forwards), Eder and Dirceu (outside lefts).

Meanwhile, at home, Flamengo are again



Champions of Brazil after a play-off in which they defeated current holders Gremio of Porto Alegre by 1-0 in an away game. The goal was scored by Nunes after brilliant play by Zico.

Flamengo officials say that the club now aims to win the World Club Championship for the second time in a row (they beat Liverpool in December) and establish themselves as firmly in the history of

Brazilian football as Santos did back in the 60's.

Flamengo are not making many friends in the Brazilian Football Association.

They decided not to take part in the current Champions Cup put on by the F.A., arguing that the tournament is badly organised and they could make much more money just playing friendlies in Brazil or abroad.

MINDING THEIR...

THERE are bound to be more drug-testing stories than ever in Spain.

We're not suggesting more players will use stimulants, but you've probably heard of stories about players who finish games so dehydrated that they've sometimes had to spend hours without being able to provide the necessary urine sample.

In Spanish summer heat the problem will be a good deal greater than during the Argentine winter of 1978, and four players from each team will be tested in the Final and the Third place match.

With eight players waiting in line, it'll be a question of minding their pees and queues...

SPANISH TV have announced that World Cup matches will be covered by seven cameras.

Three will be mounted side-by-side above the halfway line; there'll be one behind each goal; one for the substitute's benches; and a mobile camera on the touchline.

At the inaugural game and the Final there'll be ten cameras in action.

BIG BOOT FOR KEVIN

SHOOT/ adidas
Golden Shoe Awards 1981-82

THROUGHOUT the season we kept you up to date with the race for the SHOOT/adidas Golden Shoe Award. Now that the final League matches have been played we can now confirm that Southampton and England skipper Kevin Keegan has won that race. He will be presented with the fabulous Golden Shoe at a special lunch in London after the World Cup Finals. Congratulations also go to Ronnie Moore, Gordon Davies and Keith Edwards, winners of the Divisional awards for scoring most League goals.

FIRST DIVISION	(SOUTHAMPTON)	GOALS
KEVIN KEEGAN	(Ipswich)	26
Alan Brazil	(Birmingham)	21
Mick Harford*	(Ipswich)	20
John Wark	(Leeds)	18
Frank Worthington**	(WBA)	17
Cyrille Regis	(Liverpool)	17
Ian Rush	(Stoke)	16
Lee Chapman	(Notts County)	16
Iain McCulloch	(Southampton)	15
David Armstrong	(West Ham)	15
David Cross	(Birmingham)	15
Tony Evans	(Everton)	15
Graeme Sharp	(Birmingham)	15

*11 scored at Bristol City. **9 scored at Birmingham

SECOND DIVISION	(ROTHERHAM)	GOALS
RONNIE MOORE	(Sheff Wed)	22
Garry Bannister	(Luton)	21
Brian Stein	(Watford)	20
Luther Blissett	(Orient)	19
Keith Houchen*	(Newcastle)	19
Imre Varadi	(Luton)	18
Steve White	(Leicester)	18
Gary Lineker	(QPR)	17
Simon Stainrod	(Hartlepool)	17

THIRD DIVISION	(FULHAM)	GOALS
GORDON DAVIES	(Exeter)	25
Tony Kellow	(Preston)	21
Alex Bruce	(Southend)	18
Steve Phillips*	(Plymouth)	18
John Sims	(Plymouth)	17
Billy Rafferty	(Plymouth)	16
Jeff Cook	(Carlisle)	15
Bryan Robson	(Reading)	15
Neil Webb	(Reading)	15

FOURTH DIVISION	(SHEFF UTD)	GOALS
KEITH EDWARDS*	(Bury)	36
Craig Madden	(Hull)	35
Les Mutrie	(Bradford C.)	27
Bobby Campbell	(Peterborough)	24
Robbie Cooke	(York)	24
Keith Walwyn	(Colchester)	23
Kevin Bremner	(Colchester)	21

*1 scored at Hull
Fulham's Gordon Davies on target against Carlisle (left).
Sheffield United's Keith Edwards scores the goal against Peterborough (below) which just pipped Bury's Craig Madden.

A big hug for Rotherham's Ronnie Moore, top scorer in the Second Division.



'OUR CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS'



Spurs skipper Steve Perryman beats the grounded John Gregory at Wembley.

Hucker dived bravely at his feet to prevent a certain goal and hurt himself in the process.

Ray Clemence was also struggling. He needed three injections to kill the pain of a strained left calf muscle.

Unfortunately because of SHOOT'S printing schedule I had to write this column before the result of the replay was known. But even if Spurs have lost I wouldn't regard it as a disaster nor the end of the world.

Entertainment

In a season where we were tipped to win so much I feel Tottenham have contributed a great deal to the game in terms of entertainment and skill.

I just hope we have the F.A. Cup to show for our efforts so we can kick-off the new season against the Champions Liverpool in the Charity Shield on Saturday, August 21st.

Just enough space to send belated congratulations to my old club Aberdeen who, as I forecast, beat Rangers to win the Scottish Cup for only the third time in their history.

Spurs v. The Dons in the European Cup-Winners' Cup next season? Now that would be a fixture I'd really look forward to.

Steve Archibald

TOTTENHAM have only themselves to blame for allowing QPR to force them into an F.A. Cup replay for the second successive season.

Glenn Hoddle had put us ahead in the second period of extra-time, but we let Rangers get back into the match with that Terry Fenwick equaliser three minutes from time.

Incidentally, I was told that Terry Fenwick has now made F.A. Cup history by becoming the first full-back to score a goal in an F.A. Cup Final apart from a penalty.

The first game was a disappointment. Spurs did everything we had set out to do. We worked hard, tackled well and dominated the game.

Unfortunately our finishing let us down and I was the biggest culprit. I had several good chances to put the result beyond doubt but missed them all.

Heroes

Although Saturday's Final didn't give the 100,000 crowd a winning team to cheer, it certainly produced a few heroes.

Rangers' keeper Peter Hucker became a star overnight with a sensational display. But for the Incredible Hulk, Spurs would have won by at least three clear goals.

Peter's memorable afternoon began as early as the eighth minute when he turned a Garth Crooks piledriver over the crossbar.

For the rest of that disappointing afternoon Peter showed why after just 12 Second Division matches for Rangers he was selected for the England Under-21 team.

In sheer contrast, his counterpart Ray Clemence only had one shot to

save throughout the entire game.

Ray, though, could do nothing to stop Terry Fenwick's headed equaliser. It was a moment the England Under-21 star will treasure for the rest of his life.

Hucker wasn't QPR's only success, though. Tony Currie had a great game. I've never seen him in such a determined mood.

He not only marshalled his younger team-mates and demanded more effort from them with continuous verbal encouragement, but fought for every ball.

Tony revelled in the occasion and kept going for the entire 120 minutes, even though he carried an Achilles tendon injury.

Glenn Hoddle again produced it

for Spurs when it mattered, by scoring the goal.

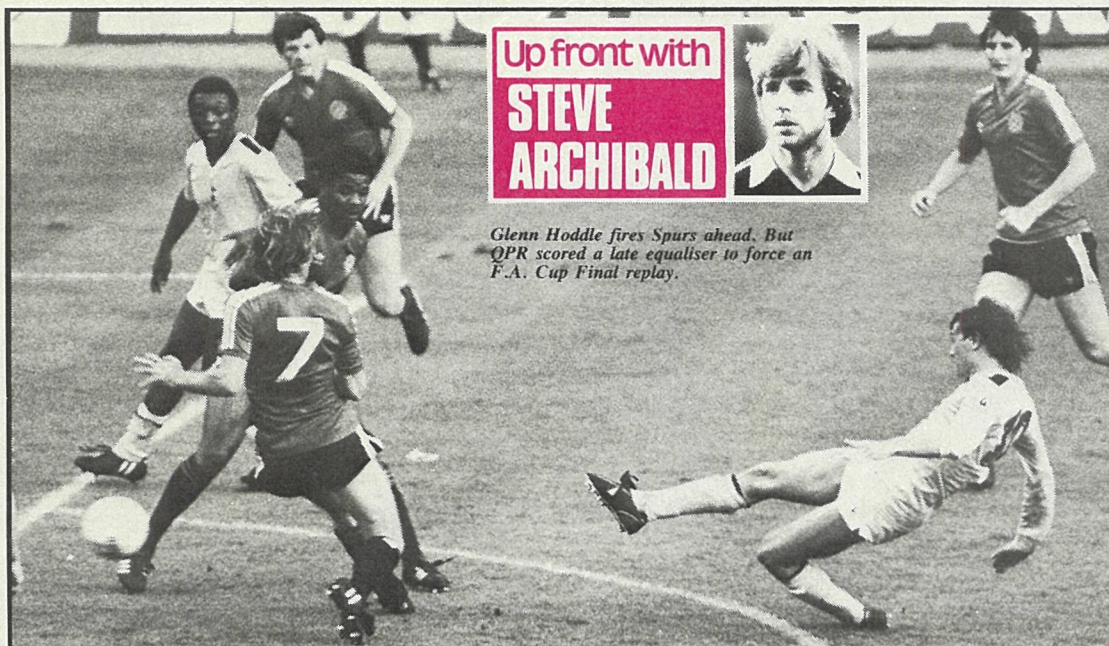
But the Spurs men-of-the-match for me were Tony Galvin and captain Steve Perryman, who both played despite injuries.

Tony battled away yet was hampered by a knee which had swollen to almost double its normal size.

Under normal circumstances Steve wouldn't have been fit to play. He had been struggling with a thigh strain all week and only started to run again on the morning of the Final.

I can reveal now that Steve played on only with the help of pain killers. But what an inspiration the Footballer of the Year was to the team.

Steve almost became Tottenham's Cup winning hero, but



Up front with
**STEVE
ARCHIBALD**

Glenn Hoddle fires Spurs ahead. But QPR scored a late equaliser to force an F.A. Cup Final replay.

STALEMATE!

Hazell in command . . . Big Bob injured a leg early on, but shrugged off the pain to give an inspiring performance at the heart of Rangers' defence.



The Cockney Cup Final between Queens Park Rangers and Spurs was hardly a classic. The 1-1 draw, which forced the second successive F.A. Cup Final replay, was a dour affair, with neither team playing to its full potential. Here's the best of the action . . .

Garth Crooks and QPR goal-hero Terry Fenwick chase a loose ball.

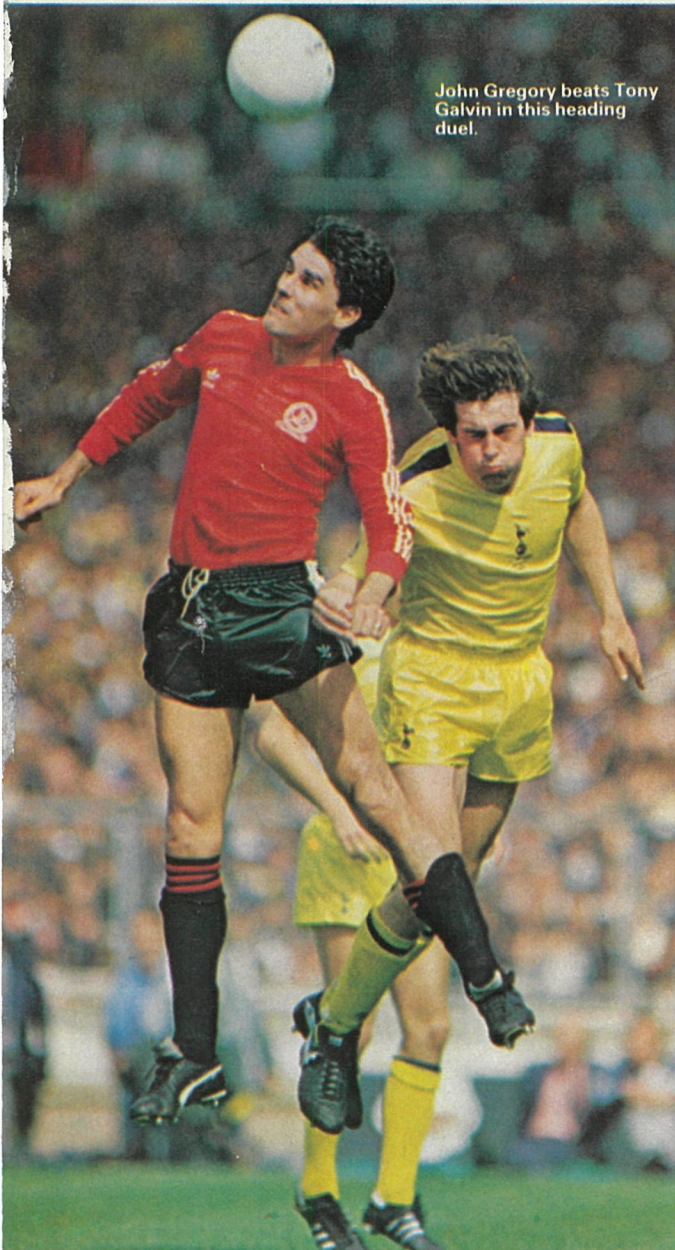


Those who doubted Tony Currie's work-rate were made to eat their words. Here he tackles Spurs' Tony Galvin.





Footballer of the Year Steve Perryman might have won the first match for Spurs but for this brave save by Peter Hucker, one of many from the Rangers rookie goalkeeper.



John Gregory beats Tony Galvin in this heading duel.



Spurs must have thought the Cup was theirs when Glenn Hoddle's extra-time goal crept past Peter Hucker . . .



. . . But Rangers' determination earned them a replay — the scorer was an unlikely player: right-back Terry Fenwick (number two) with a close-range header.

Wembley hero almost quit



PETER Hucker, Queens Park Rangers' brilliant young goalkeeper who did so much to earn his Second Division side an F.A. Cup Final replay against Spurs, was prepared last August to quit football at the end of the season.

After Hucker's splendid series of saves in the first match, it sounds ludicrous that he should have entertained such a thought.

But, as the 22-year-old 6ft 4ins Londoner explains: "All along I knew this was going to be my crunch season.

"After all, I was getting on a bit and obviously wasn't willing to stay in the reserves for the rest of my career.

'Failed'

"I decided to give it one more go to see if I could break into the first team and if I'd failed I would have left the professional game and probably joined a non-League side."

His big break came in early January when John Burridge was dropped and Hucker made his Cup debut against Middlesbrough in the Third Round.

Since then he has been a regular, even earning a call-up to the England Under-21 squad.

Was he nervous before the Final? "Not at all," he states categorically. "I intended to enjoy myself, because I heard that so many footballers are so tense they can hardly remember anything of the game.

"I didn't want the same thing to happen to me. After all, competing in an F.A. Cup Final at Wembley is usually the highlight of a player's career. And now I know why.

"The whole atmosphere during the build-up is tremendous and I am glad that I didn't let anybody down."

Like Chris Woods, who put on a

superb show for Nottingham Forest against Liverpool in the 1978 League Cup Final, Hucker was thought to be the weak link in his side.

Hucker makes another breathtaking save against Spurs.

Hucker receives treatment from QPR trainer Dave Butler after making a brave save at the feet of Steve Perryman.



But his outstanding performance drew praise from all the football writers, and his manager Terry Venables was among the first to congratulate him.

Hucker first joined Rangers as an associate schoolboy in December, 1974. He signed as an apprentice in July, 1976 and became a professional the following year.

He spent a loan period with Cambridge United and before last season had made only one League appearance.

As Hucker says: "It's strange how things can turn out . . .

"If someone had told me last summer that within 12 months I'd have been recognised by England and played in an F.A. Cup Final I would have burst out laughing."

The delighted Dons celebrate their famous victory.



THE DONS MASTER RANGERS

Aberdeen hard man Doug Rougvie muscles in to beat the Rangers winger Davie Cooper.

A delighted Neale Cooper turns in triumph after sealing the match with Aberdeen's fourth and final goal.

Aberdeen skipper Willie Miller gets to grips with the Scottish Cup at last.

NOT since 1928-29 had Rangers been beaten in a Scottish Cup Final by anybody other than Celtic. But that magnificent run finally came to an end last month when Aberdeen beat the men from Ibrox 4-1 after extra-time at Hampden Park. Injuries didn't help Rangers in their bid to sustain that run, but at the end of the day The Dons proved themselves worthy winners. Alex McLeish, Mark McGhee, Gordon Strachan and Neale Cooper were Aberdeen's scorers after John MacDonald had given Rangers an early lead. Bad luck Rangers... well done Aberdeen.

I'M still a bit shell-shocked after last month's devastating Scottish Cup Final defeat from Aberdeen.

But let there be no excuses. Aberdeen were the better team on the day, they played well and they deserved their success.

I'm certainly not going to begrudge them any of the glory that came their way.

Well, what went wrong? Just about everything, I'm afraid! Even before a ball was kicked in anger at Hampden we had suffered a blow with the injury to Derek Johnstone which forced him out of the Final.

Big Derek was really roaring back to top form — the best striker in Britain according to the manager, John Greig — and obviously he would have been a key man.

But he was injured in Sandy Jardine's testimonial match at Ibrox against Southampton and that, I'm afraid, was that.

And on the eve of the Hampden game we took another blow when Ian Redford, the player who got our League Cup Final winner against Dundee United earlier in the season, was injured in training and he, too, had to be ruled out.

I hope that this does not sound like me making excuses, but I want to underline that we did go in to the Aberdeen game minus two very important players.

Concussion

And in the Final Sandy Jardine clashed with Doug Rougvie and had to be left in the dressing-room at half-time with severe concussion. In fact, Sandy tells me he remembers nothing about the match. Wish I could say the same for myself!

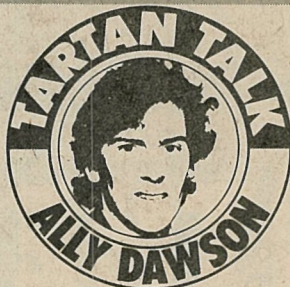
Alex Miller moved to right-back in Sandy's place and even he was hit by the injury hoodoo and had to limp off in the first period of extra-time leaving us with ten men.

But, and let there be no doubts about it, Aberdeen played very well and came back at us strongly after we had taken the lead with a magnificent goal.

I thought it was going to be our day again when Davie Cooper threaded a pass through to Miller who touched it to Gordon Dalziel out on the right.

Young Gordon did very well to turn the ball across and John MacDonald was there to throw himself full-length to leave my old chum Jim Leighton helpless with a brilliant header.

'OUR DOUBLE BLOW'



Ally tackles Aberdeen striker Mark McGhee (right) during the Scottish Cup Final played at Hampden Park.



I was happy for Jim, an old friend from my schooldays at Paisley. The Don's 'keeper has looked good this season and deserved to win something. It's just a pity he had to collect a winner's medal when Rangers were in competition.

What does the future hold in store for Rangers? Win or lose against The Dons there were obviously going to be changes at Ibrox in the new season.

Swedish World Cup midfielder Robert Prytz will be joining us, of course, and there will be several players leaving the club.

We are not suddenly a terrible team because Aberdeen beat us at Hampden. We have taken a bit of a slamming, but we will be back, you can count on that.

I believe Aberdeen would have beaten just about any team in Britain with their display against us, particularly when Alex McLeish got the equaliser before half-time to settle their nerves.

If we had still been in the lead by half-time, I'm convinced we would have retained our Cup. Aberdeen, though, simply grew in confidence and, like I said earlier, were the better team at the end of the day.

They took their goals very well. Gordon Strachan played superbly throughout and it was a measured cross from the wee man that gave

Mark McGhee the chance to put The Dons ahead in extra-time.

And, of course, it was Strachan who got the killer third goal when he sneaked in at the far post to lash a shot past Jim Stewart after a low cross from Mark McGhee.

Neale Cooper got the fourth for the record books. Colin Jackson, playing his last game for Rangers, was a bit short with a back pass and although Jim Stewart tried to clear the ball, his effort hit the Pittodrie player and, as luck would have it, it rebounded nicely for Cooper to run on and hit it over the line.

I thought our goalkeeper played magnificently against Aberdeen. He certainly did not deserve to be on the losing team.

Well, that's how the Cup was won

and lost. Aberdeen became the first team outside Celtic to beat us in a Scottish Cup Final since Kilmarnock achieved the feat way back in 1928-29.

Enjoy your success, Aberdeen, Rangers will be back in strength next season. You can bet on it!

Ally Dawson

**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**

NOBBY

RON GREENWOOD COULD REGRET
LEAVING ME OUT OF
HIS SQUAD



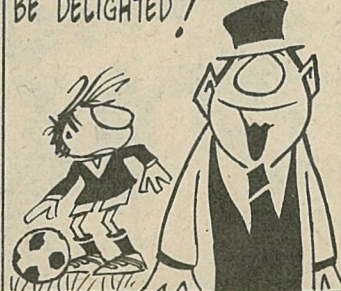
A LOT OF PEOPLE WOULD
LIKE TO SEE ME IN THE
ENGLAND TEAM



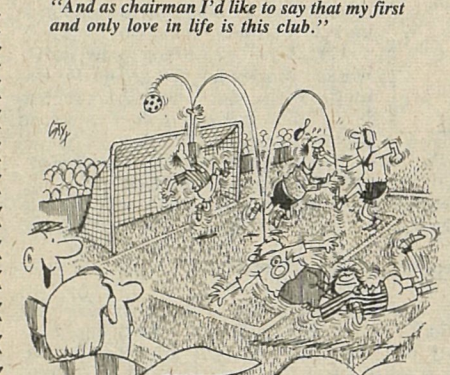
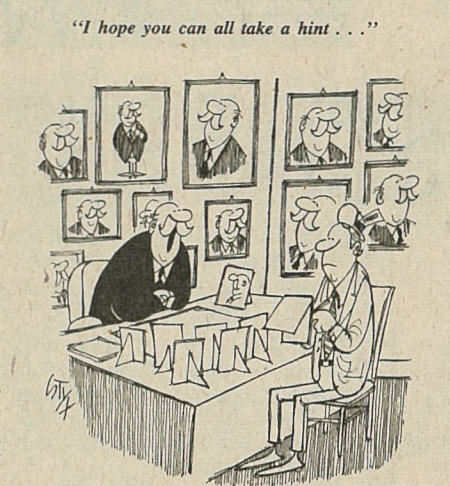
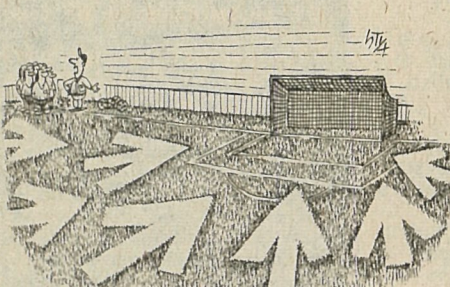
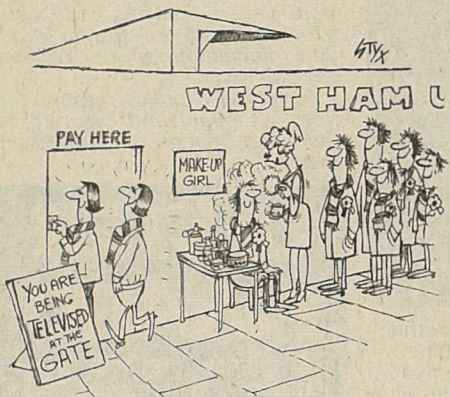
HE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW...I
CAN'T THINK OF ANY IN
THIS COUNTRY...



BUT THE FRENCH, CZECHS
AND KUWAITS WOULD
BE DELIGHTED!



FOOTBALL FUNNIES



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- * 1977 Man. Utd 2, Liverpool 1 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
- * 1976 Shampton 1, Man. Utd 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
- * 1975 West Ham 2, Fulham 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
- * 1974 Liverpool 3, Newcastle 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
- * 1973 Sunderland 1, Leeds 0 200ft
- * 1973 Semi: Leeds 1, Wolves 0 100ft
- * 1972 Leeds 1, Arsenal 0 100ft
- * 1971 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1 200ft
- * 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 2 100ft
- * 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1 100ft
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- * 1961 Spurs, Leicester 100ft
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- 1953 Blackpool 4, Bolton 3 100ft
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* 1978 Liverpool 1, Bruges 0 200ft/400ft
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- * 1977 L'pool 3, Borussia MGB 1 200ft/300ft
Also 200ft/300ft col sound 200ft/400ft
- 1968 Man. Utd 4, Benfica 1 200ft/400ft
Also b/w sound 200ft
- 1968 Man. Utd 3, Madrid 3 (semi-final) 200ft
- 1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1 200ft/400ft
- 1966 Man. Utd 5, Benfica 1 200ft
- 1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3 200ft/400ft
- WORLD CUP
* 1978 Argentina 3, Holland 1 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Scotland 3, Holland 2 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Argentina 2, France 1 200ft/400ft
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- * 1978 Holland 2, Italy 1 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Holland 2, West Germany 2 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Brazil 2, Italy 1 200ft/400ft
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- * 1978 Best Goals of tournament 200ft/400ft
- * 1974 W. Germany 2, Holland 1 200ft
- * 1974 W. Germany 4, Sweden 2 200ft
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ARSENAL STAR COACHES CRICKET

ARSENAL'S 17-year-old starlet Stewart Robson is featured in a new book for coaching youngsters who want to play — cricket! The former public schoolboy is pictured demonstrating batting shots in the book by ex-England all-rounder Trevor Bailey. Bailey says there is no doubt that Robson could be a top cricketer — but there is no danger of him turning his back on soccer. Says Stewart, who plays for a club cricket team in the summer: "I don't think you can play both sports seriously these days and football is the one I prefer."



STRIPPED!

● Gary Shelton suffered the price of fame when souvenir hunters stripped him at the end of Sheffield Wednesday's promotion battle with Norwich.

Shirt, shorts, socks and boots were ripped from his body when fans besieged the former Aston Villa midfielder after Wednesday's 2-1 win.

Fortunately, police rescued him from his plight and escorted the red-faced Shelton to the dressing room.

ULSTER AWARD

NORTHERN IRELAND international newcomer Felix Healey swept the boards in the 1982 Ulster Player of the Year awards.

The brilliant Coleraine player, who hit more than 20 senior goals last term, is the first-ever player with a provincial club to capture Northern Ireland's three major annual accolades in the same season.

Freescoring Felix, who made his international debut against Scotland in April, picked up the original "Ulster Footballer of the Year" honour, plus the N.I. Football Writers' and P.F.A. awards.

AYLOTT'S AWAY!

BARNSELEY manager Norman Hunter is resigned to losing star striker Trevor Aylott.

The former Chelsea forward's contract expires this summer and Hunter says: "It doesn't look as if we can keep him. He's turned down all our offers and there's nothing I can do under the Freedom of Contract ruling."

"He wants First Division football and won't sign a new contract with us."

"It's a shame, because he's a good player, much better than people give him credit for."

A sympathetic note came from a rival manager, Luton Town's David Pleat.

"Aylott's done well for Barnsley, but the lad should remember what they've done for him."

"He was virtually a cast-off when he left Chelsea. Barnsley gave him a chance and he's now one of the best strikers in Division Two."

Aylott joined Barnsley for £60,000 two years ago.



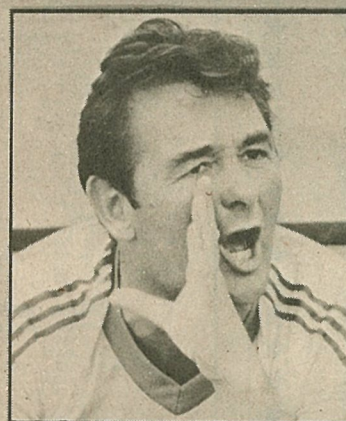
WAYNE CLARKE, younger brother of Leeds United's manager Allan, has stated that he is quite content to remain with Wolves despite all the problems over the past 12 months.

Clarke said that he has enjoyed his football more since the arrival of Ian Greaves than he did when John Barnwell was manager.

The young striker claims: "I don't think John Barnwell or his assistant, Richie Barker, believed in our soccer ability and this created a lot of pressures."

"Ian Greaves is entirely different. He encourages us to play soccer and this was reflected in some of our end of season games when we played a lot better than earlier in the season."

CLOUGH'S STAR FIND



THE name Peter Davenport does not appear in the current issue of Rothmans Football Yearbook.

Nine hundred and fifty nine pages of valuable information for any soccer fan, yet not a word on the Nottingham Forest striker who sent Ipswich reeling with a hat-trick last month.

Nor can his name be found in any other reference book, for Davenport is currently listed "unknown".

The 21-year-old Merseysider dearly wanted to play for Wrexham. He was on the Welsh club's books as a schoolboy and then Everton had a look at him and rejected his talents.

He finished up playing in the Birkenhead League for Cammell Laird, better known for building big ships than producing young footballers.

That's when Brian Clough became involved. One of his best scouts spotted Davenport's goalscoring ability and recommended him to the Nottingham Forest manager.

Four goals in his first five League games confirmed that Forest might have found a winner.

Clough (above), desperate to find a goalscorer for next season after the failure of Ian Wallace and Justin Fashanu this season, says: "Peter has good close control and pace. Nobody, not even Peter himself, pretends that he hasn't a lot to learn. After all, it takes about five years to make a striker."

"But he has made a tremendous start and surprised me."

Davenport says: "I would have liked the season to carry on for another ten matches to see if I could produce the goods consistently."

"But it's up to me to come back next season and do everything possible to carry on where I've left off."

"I've heard some pretty horrific things about pre-season training so, not being used to it, I'll be training on my own during the summer before we report back."

Rave notices

HE'S only 18, hasn't played in the first team at Sunderland... but everybody's raving about goalkeeper Mark Prudhoe.

Even Newcastle manager Arthur Cox has described him as one of the best prospects he has ever seen — and Cox has worked with some of the country's finest 'keepers.

Sunderland's Wembley hero Jim Montgomery, now youth coach at Roker Park, believes Prudhoe was a major reason for Sunderland's progress to the Semi-Finals of the F.A. Youth Cup.

And his ability is one of the reasons that Roker boss Alan Durban is prepared to sell Barry Siddall in the summer.

GERRY SUMMERS, who split with WBA after just six months there as chief coach, insists there was no major row with manager Ronnie Allen behind his departure.

He claims: "There were no hard feelings. I had a very rewarding time at Albion."

And manager Ronnie Allen added: "Gerry was here on a six-month trial basis and that's now over. He had trouble selling his house in the South and felt he couldn't continue travelling."

IPSWICH and Scotland striker Alan Brazil is hoping for a special 23rd birthday present on June 15 this year.

Brazil, chosen by the Portman Road fans as their Player of the Year, wants a place in the Scottish line-up to meet New Zealand in their first World Cup game on that day.

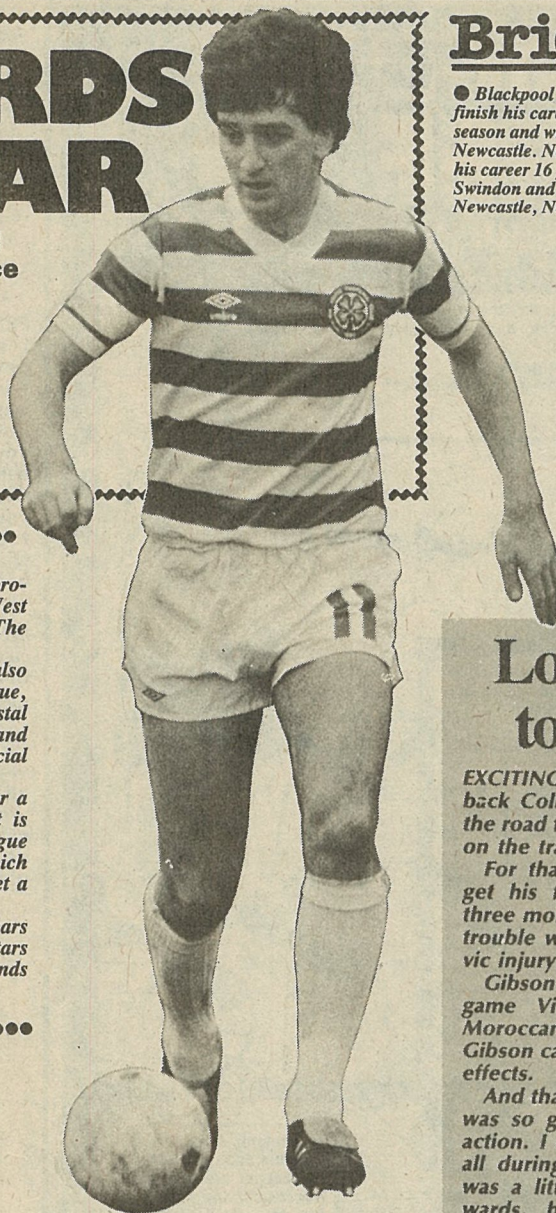
Twenty-one League goals during the season may have helped Alan towards this particular goal.

STEIN REWARDS SCOTTISH STAR

CELTIC's George McCluskey could now be poised to fulfil the massive potential he has shown since joining the Parkhead club eight years ago.

The 24-year-old has enjoyed his most productive season at the club and his inclusion in Jock Stein's World Cup squad of 40 is evidence of McCluskey's progress.

He has had many demands placed on him in the past few months as Celtic have struggled to overcome a crippling injury problem. Charlie Nicholas, Davie Provan, Danny McGrain and Frank McGarvey have all been injured.



Briefly

● Blackpool midfielder Peter Noble will finish his career at Bloomfield Road this season and will consider an offer to play for Newcastle. Not the Newcastle where he began his career 16 years ago before playing for Swindon and Burnley, though, but Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia.

● Three former British international stars, Roger Hunt (England), Denis Law (Scotland) and Jimmy McIlroy (Northern Ireland) took part in a World Cup "talk-in" at Belfast City Hall recently.

● Ipswich and Brighton are to compete in a four club pre-season tournament in Holland in August.

Sponsored by Townsend Thoresen and hosted by PSV Eindhoven, the competition will also feature European Cup-Winners' Cup Finalists Standard Liege of Belgium.

BEST'S BACK

GEORGE BEST has agreed to come out of retirement to play in Lou Macari's testimonial game next season.

Manchester United's popular Scot has been granted a special match, a celebration the former Northern Ireland and United winger would not miss for the world.

Best has helped United make a video film of their history.

DEREK KEVAN, one of the most prolific goalscorers in the history of West Bromwich Albion, has returned to The Hawthorns.

The former England striker, who also had spells with Bradford Park Avenue, Chelsea, Manchester City, Crystal Palace, Peterborough, Luton and Stockport, has joined the commercial office at Albion.

Derek, who has been working for a brewery in recent years, said: "It is great to be back with a Football League club. My job is to sell West Bromwich Albion and I feel sure that I will get a good response from the fans."

His only involvement in recent years has been running the Albion Old Stars team, who play games in the Midlands for charity.

FORMER Middlesbrough midfielder Graeme Hedley has been offered a year's contract with Ryoden in Hong Kong. Hedley was released by Boro in a clear-out to slash the wage bill.

Long road to fitness

EXCITING young Aston Villa left-back Colin Gibson had to take the road to Morocco to get back on the trail to full fitness.

For that's where he went to get his first proper game for three months after running into trouble with a complicated pelvic injury.

Gibson had 45 minutes in the game Villa played against a Moroccan XI. Villa lost 3-2 but Gibson came through with no ill effects.

And that left him claiming: "It was so good to get back into action. I didn't feel anything at all during the game though it was a little stiff the day afterwards, but that's to be expected."

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



Berry takes Hazell trail

WELSH international George Berry is seeking a new club after being given a free transfer by Wolves.

It is a sign of the times that such a player as Berry is allowed to leave — just to reduce the size of the weekly wage bill.

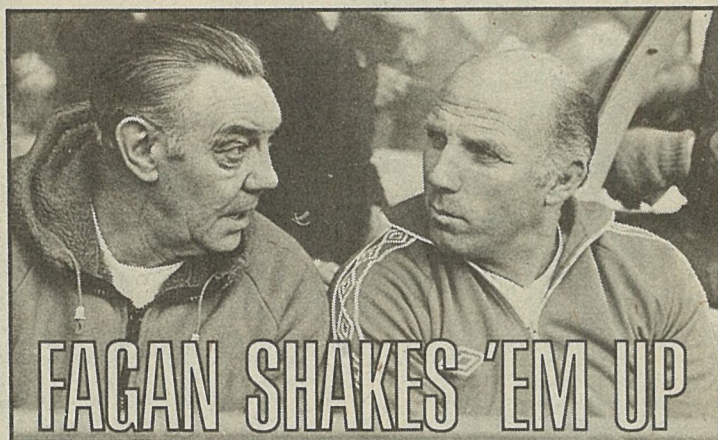
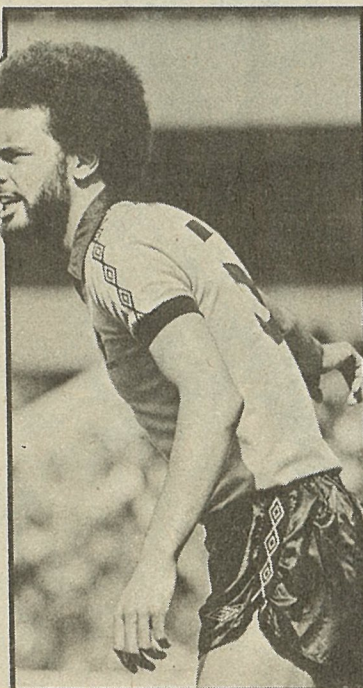
Berry said: "The manager, Ian Greaves, told me it was purely for financial reasons that he was letting me go.

"But it was something I had been expecting in view of the developments at Wolves.

"I believe that I have something to offer and my intention is to get fixed up with a new club as quickly as possible.

"It is not the end of the world. Look at Bob Hazell. He left Wolves under a cloud and landed at Queens Park Rangers where he has had a very good season.

"Bob was tremendous in the F.A. Cup Final, and I just hope I can emulate his success with a new club."



FAGAN SHAKES 'EM UP

LIVERPOOL coach Joe Fagan sat smouldering at a players' meeting called last winter to discuss the First Division Champions poor form.

They were well down the table, going nowhere. Or so it seemed.

Then Joe (above left) exploded in a torrent of words for the assembled players. It went roughly like this: "I'm sick of these meetings. I know you can play, you know you can play, so for God's sake get on with it. Let's have no more nonsense."

Liverpool played... and won the Championship for the 13th time.

Sad news is that Bob Paisley, who has guided the club with a Midas touch since the late and great Bill Shankly's premature retirement, has announced his probable retirement at the end of next season.

Perhaps Joe Fagan should have this kind of word with the Anfield boss.

"I know you can manage, you know you can manage, so for God's sake stay on, Bob."

I wonder if the popular Liverpool coach has the courage to make that sort of statement to his boss?

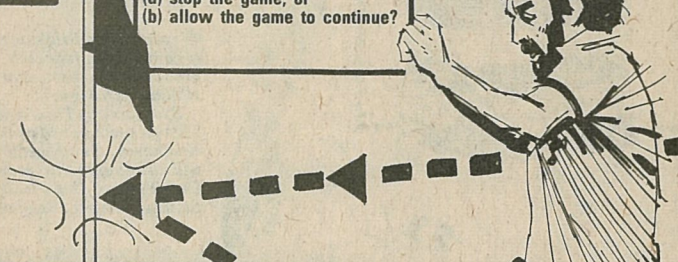
YOU ARE THE REF

compiled by Keith Hackett



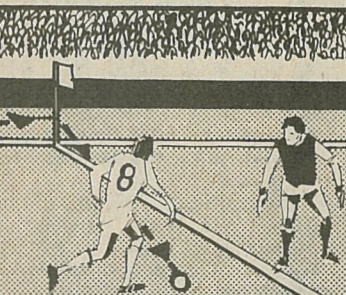
1

The ball strikes the corner flag and bounces back into play. Should you:
(a) stop the game, or
(b) allow the game to continue?



2

The ball strikes the halfway line flag and bounces back into the field of play. Should you:
(a) award a throw-in, or
(b) allow the game to continue?



3

A spectator runs on to the field and holds the goalkeeper, preventing him from saving a shot. Should you allow the goal?



MATCH POINT

I'd like to stress how important it is for players to play to the referee's whistle and not to the linesman's flag. A classic example of this occurred during the recent Leicester v Grimsby match. A Leicester player attacked down the wing, one of the linesmen flagged and several Grimsby men automatically stopped. They assumed the Leicester man was offside, but in fact the linesman was clearly signalling for a foul by a Grimsby player. Naturally I played the advantage, the Leicester lad went on and nearly scored. The Grimsby men were very annoyed with me, but it wasn't my fault. Had Leicester scored, Grimsby could have been relegated because they fell into one of the oldest traps in the game.

ANSWERS

1. Allow the game to continue (b). 2. Award a throw-in (b). The halfway line flag must be at least one yard outside the touchline, which means with a drop ball. 3. No. Restart the game hitting it. 3. No. Restart the game hitting it. 3. No. Restart the game hitting it.

SHOOT: It was something of a surprise that you qualified at the expense of the African Champions, Nigeria, wasn't it?

FERGANI: It wasn't much of a surprise for the players, though I must admit I had expected a tougher match in our first leg in Lagos and I didn't think we'd win so easily. But we beat them twice with a goal-aggregate of 4-1, so we clearly proved our superiority.

SHOOT: So what qualities have taken Algeria to the top?

FERGANI: Our success has been the result of a long-term development programme which has brought about vast improvements in Algerian soccer, both at national and club level. If you look at our recent record you'll see we did very well indeed in the Olympic football tournament two years ago and reached the Final of the African Nations Cup.

Qualifying for Spain has, perhaps, been the logical climax to several years of serious work.

SHOOT: But you didn't perform too convincingly in the last African Nations Cup a couple of months ago.

FERGANI: We knew it was going to be difficult even before we set off for the Finals in Libya. We weren't too happy about playing all the matches on artificial turf and we were aware that all the other teams would be gunning for us. I feel also there was a question of motivation, because for six of



SPAIN 82
WORLD CUP
CAPTAINS

No.23

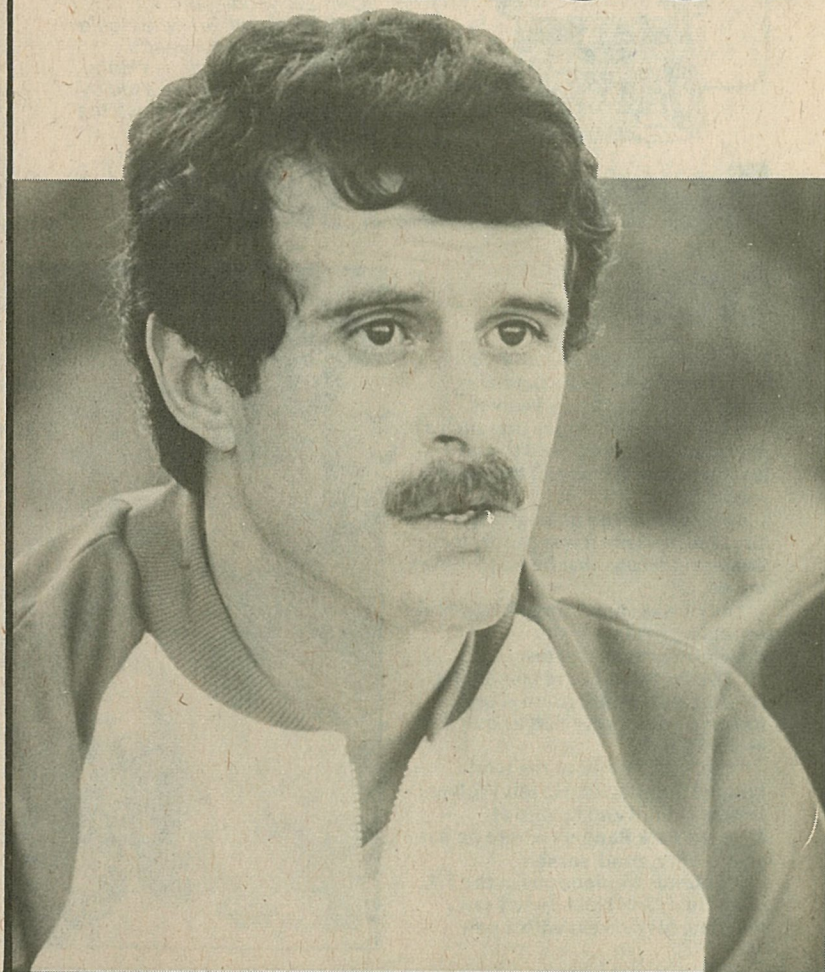
**ALI
FERGANI
Algeria**

the teams competing it was the event of the year. For Cameroon and ourselves the climax is our journey to Spain where we must play not against African opposition, but against the best of Europe and South America. I think this took the edge off our ambitions in Libya.

SHOOT: Do you believe you'll be more successful in Group Two against West Germany, Austria and Chile?

FERGANI: There's no doubt this is a difficult group and West Germany were one of the

'West



countries we might have been happy to avoid in the draw. But Tunisia proved in 1978 that even the Germans aren't invincible.

SHOOT: Do you think you can improve on Tunisia's performance in Argentina?

FERGANI: There's no doubt that Tunisia set the bar at a new height for African football and it is our duty to at least maintain this standard and improve it, if possible. We will be aiming to qualify for the second phase.

SHOOT: But can you do it at the expense of Chile or Austria, assuming the Germans are certs to go through?

FERGANI: Yes, I feel we can. And we also have the advantage that people don't expect us to do anything, so we should be able to play a relaxed game.

SHOOT: Critics have been enthusing about your partner in midfield, Lakhdar Belloumi. Is he really the star of the side?

FERGANI: He's a superb player, yes, but we must not lose sight of the fact that football is a team game and I'd say our great strength is that we have a well-balanced side and that everyone works hard for each other.

SHOOT: You've played dozens of preparation games over the last five months, mostly against club opposition. Would you say your build-up has been

generally assured of a good job with prospects when you retire from the game. Personally, I'm an architect, although I freely admit I prefer football.

SHOOT: You mentioned your club and you skipped Tizi Ouzu to victory in the African Champions Cup last year.

FERGANI: We beat Vita of Zaire in the Final and it was a fabulous experience. It's more proof of what I was saying earlier about the all-round improvement in our soccer at all levels.

SHOOT: You've chopped and changed managers in your World Cup campaign. Mekhloufi left just before the qualifiers started; Khalef didn't stay long; then the Yugoslav Rajkov left in the middle of the campaign; the Russian, Rogov, took you through to Spain and now both Mekhloufi and Khalef are back again in tandem. Hasn't this made things hard for the players?

FERGANI: When you list the names like that it sounds bad. But the changes haven't signified abrupt alterations in our style. At the moment Mekhloufi is the overall leader in tactical and organisational matters, while Khalef takes the day-to-day coaching.

SHOOT: Will you play defensively in Spain?

FERGANI: We'll be trying to play a practical game. Our defence has

HOW THEY QUALIFIED

Sierre Leone 2, Algeria 2
Algeria 3, Sierre Leone 1

Algeria 2 Sudan 0
Sudan 1 Algeria 1

Algeria 4 Niger 0
Niger 1 Algeria 0

Nigeria 0 Algeria 2
Algeria 2 Nigeria 1

*First time in the Finals

Rabah Madjer, one of the key Algerian players heading for Spain.

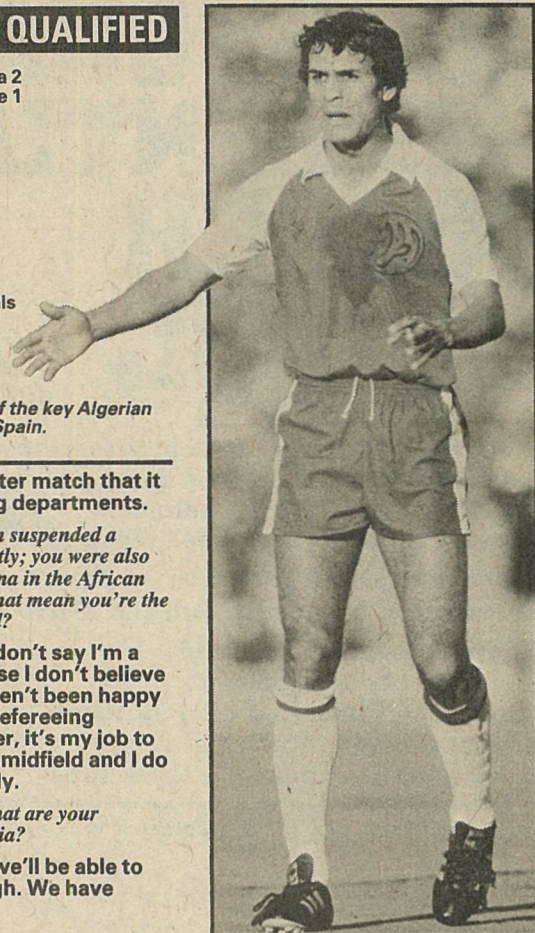
proved in match after match that it is one of our strong departments.

SHOOT: You've been suspended a couple of times recently; you were also sent-off against Ghana in the African Nations Cup. Does that mean you're the hard man in midfield?

FERGANI: Please don't say I'm a dirty player because I don't believe it's the truth. I haven't been happy with some of the refereeing decisions. However, it's my job to win the ball in the midfield and I do this firmly but fairly.

SHOOT: Finally, what are your predictions for Algeria?

FERGANI: I think we'll be able to hold our heads high. We have



Germany and us for Round Two'

successful?

FERGANI: We obviously needed to gain more experience against European and South American opposition. We've also had a chance to experiment with many players.

SHOOT: Has it been a disadvantage to have your top professionals playing with overseas clubs, mostly in France and Belgium?

FERGANI: Only to a certain extent. They tend to be the older players who've already gained experience with the national team. They've fitted back into the Algerian side without too much trouble.

SHOOT: Is the game still strictly amateur in Algeria?

FERGANI: Well, yes, but we're obviously compensated for the time we have to spend away from our jobs.

SHOOT: Have you thought about emigrating?

FERGANI: It could be an interesting adventure and at 29 perhaps this is the time to try. I'm happy with my club, Tizi Ouzu. Football in Algeria may be amateur, but it can bring a number of social privileges and you're



enough talent combined with physical fitness. We also have young, skilful players to blend with the more experienced professionals. Okay — nobody thinks we'll win the World Cup, but we're convinced Algeria won't be an easy team for anyone to beat... even West Germany.

**NEXT WEEK:
KEVIN KEEGAN
ENGLAND**

THE MANAGER — RACHID MEKHOLOUFI

UNTIL late February Russian coach Eugeni Rogov headed a three-man management team alongside Maouche and Saadane. But Rogov admitted that his speciality was physical preparation, so the 'prodigal son' of Algerian football, Rachid Mekhloufi, has now been brought back to mastermind the World Cup campaign.

Born on August 22nd, 1936, at Fetif, Mekhloufi is hailed as the best Algerian player of all-time.

A super-skilled inspirational midfielder with a fierce shot and a flair for scoring goals, he rose to fame in France, picking up a League title with St. Etienne in 1957 and winning four international caps before the political situation forced him back to Algeria.

Returning to St. Etienne a few years later, he won more League medals in 1964 and 1967, plus a League and Cup double in 1968.

He then finished his career in Corsica with Bastia before heading back to Algeria and taking up management.

Mekhloufi was named national team manager in July, 1971, and led Algeria to gold medals in both the 1975 Mediterranean Games and the 1978 African Games.

He resigned in May, 1979, making way for Mahiedine Kalef, and headed for a lucrative Interlude in Saudi Arabia.

Unfortunately his team was relegated and in 1981 he took a job in Tunisia as boss of Esperance Sportif. He never settled in Tunis after refusing a local man as his assistant, and initially only six of the squad agreed to turn up for training.

By contrast, most of the current Algeria side, especially star midfielder Belloumi, rate Mekhloufi as the decisive influence on their football careers.

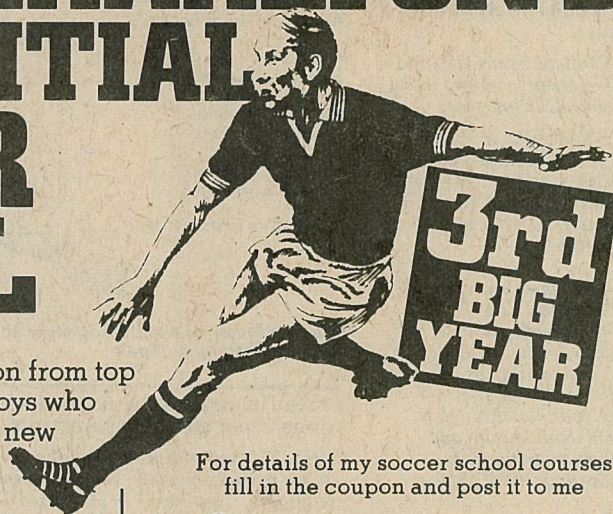
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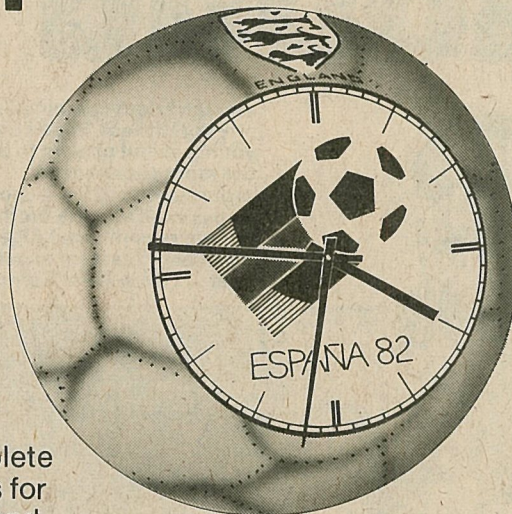
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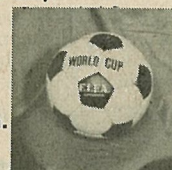
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because Peter is irreplaceable. That's like saying I will go out and get another Geoff Boycott or Lester Piggott.

"Of course I was lonely without Peter at first. It was a strange feeling when he wasn't beside me in the dug-out for our next match and when I strolled to our training ground along the side of the River Trent, I was walking on my own for the first time in many years.

"But I still have 15 months of my contract to run with Nottingham Forest and I intend to see it through.

"Things are not as bad at the City Ground as they might seem. I know we went through nine games without a win and our season as a whole didn't come up to expectations. But although I'm not one for excuses, there were reasons for that.

'Intend'

"Hopefully we can do better next season and I intend to be around in Nottingham to try and make that happen."

Whether Clough will be around the year after, however, is open to debate — although what is certain is that if he leaves Forest, he will leave football.

He has often hinted he would like the chance to leave the rough-and-tumble of football

'I won't retire — yet'

IT comes as no surprise that the entire football world has questioned the future of Brian Clough since he lost his assistant at Nottingham Forest.

Peter Taylor's decision to split with his partner of 16 years by resigning came as a bombshell.

But it wasn't quite so unexpected to people in Nottingham although the timing — so close to the end of the season — did come as a surprise.

Taylor claimed he was physically and mentally drained after a season in which he hoped to share responsibility for shaping a new young Forest, capable of recapturing former glories.

But now he has gone and the two-man show is at an end.

Critics

Together they steered Nottingham Forest out of the Second Division and within a year they had confounded all the critics by capturing the Championship.

Three League Cup Finals, two ending in victory, were further testimony to the success of the Clough-Taylor team.

But the pinnacle of their careers was surely the European Cup Finals of 1979 and 1980, both won in disciplined if spectacular fashion.

So where does this latest development leave Clough? It's only a few months, of course, since he was rushed into hospital having apparently suffered a heart attack.

In fact, that was no more than a

scare but does he still have the energy and enthusiasm to further his reputation as a master in the art of management — especially on his own?

He said: "I have no intention of appointing another assistant

management and sample something different.

Maybe Taylor's decision will help him make up his own mind and barring an unexpected invitation to succeed Ron Greenwood, it must be conceivable that the game could lose one of its most famous characters in 15 months time.

Brian Clough

Forest celebrate after retaining the European Cup by beating Hamburger SV in the 1980 Final.





SCOTT



BACK ROW (left to right): John Wark, Graeme Souness, Alan Rough, Alex McLeish, Alan Hansen, Billy Thomson, David Narey, Roy Aitken.

MIDDLE ROW: Donnie McKinnor, Jim Steel (masseur), Alan Brazil,

LAND



(physio), Frank Gray, Willie Miller,
Steve Archibald, Hugh Allan (trainer).

FRONT ROW: Jim McLean (asst. manager), Paul Sturrock, Gordon Strachan,
Danny McGrain, Asa Hartford, Kenny Dalglish, Jock Stein (manager).

SHOOT!

EARLY in the new season Celtic's 20-year-old left-back Mark Reid will chalk up his 100th appearance in the first team . . .

A statistic which will surprise some of the Celtic supporters and one which has already astonished Reid himself.

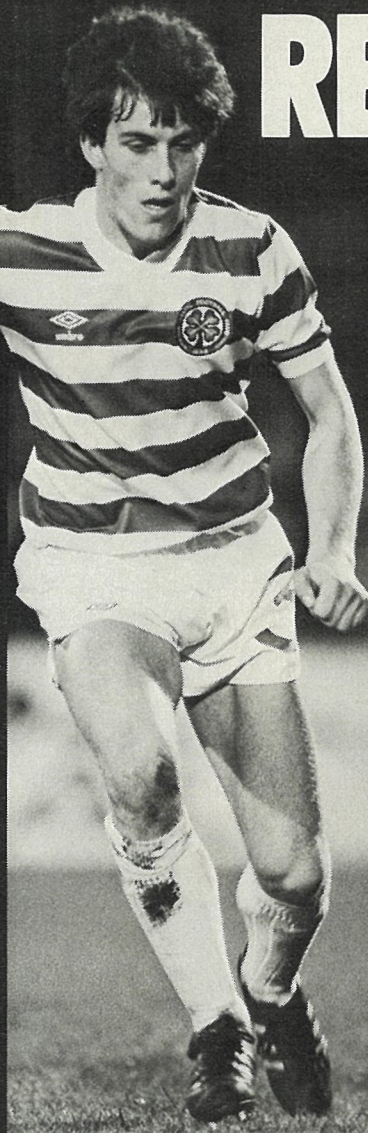
"It was only towards the end of last season that I started counting up the number of matches I'd played for the first team," says Reid.

"It was up around 80 games and I just couldn't believe that. It seemed no time at all since I was playing in the reserves. But, of course, I managed to keep clear of injury and I'd been left out of the team just once after breaking through for the first time the season before."

That opening arrived for Reid after Celtic had been going through a bad spell, with defeats from Rangers and Aberdeen following hard on each other.

The team was changed around and Reid came in at left-back. His debut was unspectacular — just as his play has been since.

But what the youngster has shown has been a firmness in defence and intelligence in going forward that Celtic supporters have come to respect. As have opponents . . .



REID NEAR THE 100 MARK

There is a tidiness about his play which impresses in a quiet way and which has carried him into the Under-21 international side.

Reid's entire career has been with Celtic. He played with the Parkhead side's Boys' Club team from the Under-14 level onwards, signed an 'S' form at the end of his first season and was then called up to the ground staff in the last months of Jock Stein's reign there.

"I started off as a midfield man but in the reserve team I was used at left-back a lot when some of the first team players were dropped or were coming back after injury," says Mark.

'Persisted'

"Gradually I began to like playing there and it was obvious that there was maybe more chance of getting into the first team if I persisted in that position. That's how I became a left-back!"

"Before I got in Danny McGrain was playing there and Alan Sneddon, who was transferred to Hibs, was at right-back.

"I've enjoyed playing there and all the lads in the first team have been great. Maybe Tommy Burns has been especially good to me because he plays on the same side of the park and he's always ready

to talk about the game and give me advice. It's marvellous playing with him in front of you. He is such a good player.

"Then the boss, Billy McNeill, and his assistant, John Clark, have encouraged me a lot. When I went into the League side at first I worried about being dropped after a bad game. I thought I'd just go out and that would be that . . .

"But the manager played me through a couple of bad games and that gave me confidence.

"I suppose to begin with I thought it was a temporary thing and so I felt I had to keep playing well in every single game. But the boss told me just to play the way I had been playing with the reserves and that would be good enough.

"When I stayed in the team I think my confidence increased. Since I made my debut in November of 1980 I've missed just one game and been on the bench in another.

"I'd like to stay in Scotland's Under-21 team because we have a good nucleus of players for next year and it's tremendous experience to play at that level."

There's little doubt that he will stay to make up a formidable full-back partnership with Steve Nicol of Liverpool. Watch out for these two . . .

WHEN Frank McAvennie accepted the Young Player of the Year award at a dinner in Glasgow at the beginning of May it was the climax of seven sensational months for the St. Mirren starlet.

Seven months which had seen him burst through to the St. Mirren first team . . . force his way into the Scotland Under-21 side . . .

he says, "I don't have any great ambitions.

"I'd really like to help St Mirren win one of the honours after coming so close this season.

"There's been a Semi-Final jinx on me in my first year if you look at things. With St. Mirren there were two failures in the last four . . .

"In the League Cup over two legs we lost to Rangers by the odd goal and they went on to win the

"St. Mirren deserved to get something last term after the way we played. Only at the end when injuries hit us were we struggling. That finish to the season was a bad one.

"All I want to do is get over that Semi-Final hurdle in future. If we could do it next season with St. Mirren I'd be happy.

"I've been strong enough to

handle a long run in the first team. And to be able to get over that injury. I thought I'd be out for a long spell when I was told I'd fractured my skull. But I missed only four games in a three-week spell. That was a bonus for me."

Next season McAvennie will be scoring more goals for St. Mirren. That's certain — but how long they will be able to hold on to him is another matter. His long term ambition may have to change because he will be a transfer target very soon.

'SENSATIONAL' FRANK

fracture his skull and fight back to playing inside three weeks . . . and, finally, lift the trophy which was also being chased by John Hewitt of Aberdeen, Paul McStay of Celtic and Craig Paterson of Hibs.

Since breaking into the St. Mirren first team last October there has been no stopping McAvennie.

He's been there ever since — apart from injury — and is rapidly turning himself into one of the hottest properties in Scottish soccer.

"Apart from doing well for St. Mirren and maybe, one day, getting into the Scotland team,"

trophy by beating Dundee United.

"In the Scottish Cup, we went to a replay against Aberdeen and lost to them in that second match at Dens Park.

"Then with Scotland's Under-21 team we lost to England in the European Championship Semis. Just one goal in that game, too, when they scored at Hampden, that's what beat us though we drew 1-1 at Maine Road.

"It was hard to take all three of these defeats when each time we thought we were in with a chance of success.

Morton's defence clearly know the identity of St. Mirren's dangerman . . . Frank McAvennie.



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Saturday, May 1

continued

Second Division

SHEFFIELD WED 0
CHELSEA 0 19,259
Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Sterland (Pearson), Blackhall, Smith, Pickering, Taylor, Megson, Shelton, Bannister (McCulloch), Curran.
Chelsea: Francis, Locke, Hutchings, Nutton (Rofe), Droy, Pates, Britton, Chivers, Walker, Mayes, Lee.

WREXHAM 0
CAMBRIDGE 0 3,351
Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Jones, Bater, Davis (Vinter), Dowman, Ronson, Leman, McNeil, Edwards, Fox, Carrodus.
Cambridge: Webster, Turner, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Streete, Donaldson, Cartwright, Reilly, Finney, Christie.

Third Division

BRENTFORD (1) 2 (Bowen, Whitehead)
DONCASTER (0) 2 (Snodin G, Lister) 4,174

BRISTOL CITY (1) 2 (Williams, Economou)
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Lee) 3,931

CARLISLE (0) 2 (Staniforth pen, Leslie (og))
WIMBLEDON (1) 1 (Hodges) 4,466

CHESTERFIELD (2) 2 (Walker, Bonnyman)
SWINDON (0) 1 (Carter) 2,028

FULHAM (0) 2 (Wilson, Lewington)
READING (1) 2 (Earles, Beavon) 6,773

LINCOLN (1) 1 (Cockerill)
BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 0 4,024

NEWPORT 0
BURNLEY 0 4,094

OXFORD 0
MILLWALL 0 7,230

PLYMOUTH (0) 0
PRESTON (1) 3 (Kelly, Bell, Elliott) 3,319

PORTSMOUTH (0) 2 (Rafferty, Doyle pen)
CHESTER (0) 0 6,196

SOUTHEND (1) 4 (Mercer, Spence 2, Phillips)
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0 4,470

WALSALL (1) 2 (Penn 2)
EXETER (0) 1 (Pratt) 2,487

Fourth Division

ALDRSHOT (4) 4 (French 2, Brodie, Lucas)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 1,304

BLACKPOOL (0) 1 (Noble)
HEREFORD (0) 0 1,881

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Heffernan pen)
HULL (0) 0 8,055

BURY (3) 4 (Butler, Madden 2 (1 pen), Hilton (P))
COLCHESTER (1) 3 (Lyons, Bremner, McDonough) 1,720

CREWE (1) 2 (Williams, Palios)
SHEFFIELD UTD (1) 3 (Edwards, King 2) 6,186

HALIFAX (1) 2 (Evans, Ward)
HARTLEPOOL (0) 0 1,305

MANSFIELD (1) 3 (Caldwell, Nicholson 2)
TORQUAY (0) 1 (Cox) 1,392

PETERBOROUGH (0) 0
WIGAN (2) 3 (Barrow, Bradd 2) 6,229

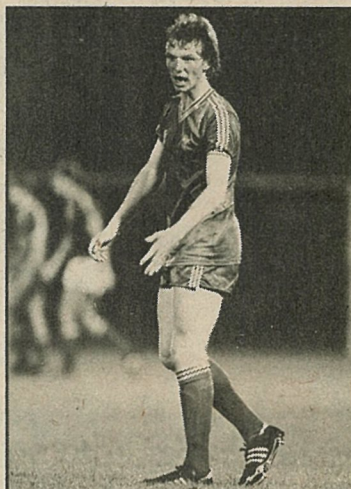
PORT VALE 0
YORK 0 1,924

ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Dolan pen)
BRADFORD (1) 1 (Staniforth) 3,080

Scottish Premier

CELTIC (4) 6 (Burns, Crainie, Aitken, MacLeod 2, McCluskey)
HIBS (0) 0 16,064
Celtic: Bonner, McGrain, Reid, Aitken, McAdam, MacLeod, Provan, Sullivan, Crainie, Burns, McCluskey.
Hibs: McArthur, Sneddon, McLaren, Brazil (Schaefer), Paterson, Flavell, McNamara, Turnbull, MacLeod, (Jamieson), Murray, Rodier.

DUNDEE (0) 0
ABERDEEN (2) 5 (McLeish, Harrow, Glennie (og), Bell, McCall) 6,415
Dundee: Geddes, Barr, McKinnie, Fraser, Smith, Glennie, Ferguson (Mackie), Stephen, Sinclair, Kidd, McGeachie.
Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, Rougvie, McMaster, McLeish, Miller Black (Watson), Simpson (McCall), Harrow, Bell, Weir.



Alex McLeish, scorer of Aberdeen's first at Dundee.

MORTON (1) 1 (Docherty)
RANGERS (3) 3 (Russell, MacDonald 2) 6,500
Morton: Baines, Hayes, Holmes, McLaughlin, Duffy, Rooney, Docherty, McNeil (Houston), Cochrane, Hutchison (Busby), Ritchie.
Rangers: Stewart, Jardine, Dawson, McClelland, Jackson, Bett, Russell (McAdam), Redford, Johnstone, Cooper, MacDonald.

PARTICK 0
AIRDRIE 0 2,000
Partick: Rough, Murray, Lapsley, Whittaker, Dunlop, Jardine, Watson, Doyle, Johnstone, Park, O'Hara (Higgins).
Airdrie: Davison, Cairney, Rodger, Anderson, March, Campbell, McKeown, Flood, Gordon, Clark, Walker.

ST. MIRREN (1) 2 (McAvennie, Stark pen)
DUNDEE UTD (0) 2 (Bannon pen, Dodds) 3,400
St. Mirren: Thomson, Walker, Beckett, Copland, Fulton, Stark, Abercrombie, McAvennie, Sumner, MacDougall, Logan.
Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Malpas, Gough, Narey, Hegarty, Holt, Bannon, Milne, Kirkwood, Sturrock, Dodds.

Scottish First

CLYDEBANK (0) 1 (McCabe)
DUNFERMLINE (0) 0 460

E. STIRLING (0) 1 (McCaig)
KILMARNOCK (4) 5 (Bourke 2, Robertson, McLean pen, McGiven) 300

HAMILTON (0) 1 (Fairlie pen)
FALKIRK (0) 0 830

HEARTS (2) 2 (Byrne, Pettigrew)
DUMBARTON (1) 5 (Blair, Dunlop 3, McGowan) 4,861

QoS (0) 2 (Robertson (J.), McLeod)
MOTHERWELL (2) 5 (McClare 2, Gahagan, Cleland, Irvine) 500

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 2 (Crawley 2 (1 pen))
ST. JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (McNeill) 708

RAITH (0) 1 (Ahern og)
AYR (0) 0 900

Scottish Second

ALBION (1) 2 (Evans 2)
CLYDE (2) 3 (McCutcheon 2, Nevin pen) 500

ALLOA (1) 1 (Stewart)
STRANRAER (1) 1 (Gibb) 601

ARBROATH (1) 1 (Robb pen)
EAST FIFE (1) 1 (Caithness) 590

BRECHIN (1) 1 (Stewart)
BERWICK (0) 0 300

COWDENBEATH (1) 2 (Liddle, McIntosh)
STIRLING (0) 0 300

FORFAR 0
MONTROSE 0 875

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 3 (Buchanan, Jenkins, Munn)
MEADOWBANK (1) 1 (Hendrie) 300

Monday, May 3

First Division

TOTTENHAM (2) 2 (Perryman, Archibald)
LIVERPOOL (0) 2 (Dalglish 2) 38,091

Tottenham: Aleksic, Hughton, Miller, Roberts (Jones), Lacy, Perryman, O'Reilly, Archibald, Falco, Brooke, Crooks.

Liverpool: Grobbelaar, Neal, Lawrenson, Kennedy, Whelan, Thompson, Dalglish, Lee, Rush, Johnston (Souness), Hansen.

Third Division

BRISTOL ROVERS (1) 1 (Williams (D))
BRENTFORD (2) 2 (Roberts, Kamara) 4,314

Fourth Division

COLCHESTER (1) 1 (McDonough)
PORT VALE (0) 0 1,570

Scottish Premier

CELTIC 0
ST. MIRREN 0 27,395

Celtic: Bonner, McGrain, Reid, Aitken, McAdam, MacLeod, Provan, Sullivan, McCluskey, Burns, Crainie.
St. Mirren: Thomson, Walker (Sommer), Beckett, Curran, Fulton, Copland, McEachran, Stark, McDougall, McAvennie (Logan), Abercrombie.

ABERDEEN (2) 3 (McCall, Watson, Hewitt)
PARTICK (1) 1 (Doyle) 6,000

Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, Rougvie, Watson, McLeish, Miller, Black, Bell, McCall, Angus, Weir (Hewitt).

Partick: Rough, Murray, Lapsley, Whittaker, Watson (McDonald), Park, Jardine, Johnston, Doyle, Clark, O'Hara.

Tuesday, May 4

First Division

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0
ARSENAL (0) 1 (Whyte) 13,133

Birmingham: Coton, Langan, Hawker (Phillips), Stevenson, Van den Hauwe, Curbishley, van Mierlo, Dillon, Harford, Broadhurst, Evans.

Arsenal: Wood, Hollins, Sansom, Talbot, O'Leary, Whyte, Hawley, Sunderland, Davis, Robson, Rix.

BRIGHTON (2) 2 (Robinson, Hollifield (og))
WOLVES (0) 0 10,429

Brighton: Moseley, Shanks, Nelson, Stevens, Foster, Gating, Case (Greulich), Ritchie, Robinson, McNab, Ring.

Wolves: Bradshaw, Humphrey, Hollifield (Atkinson), Eves, Pender, Coy, Hibbitt, Carr, Matthews, Richards, Clarke.

EVERTON (0) 1 (Sharp)
LEEDS (0) 0 17,137

Everton: Southall, Stevens, Walsh, Higgins, Wright, McMahon, Irvine, Heath, Sharp, Rimmer (Eastoe), Ross.

Leeds: Lukic, Cherry, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Burns, Gray (E), Graham, Worthington, Connor, Barnes.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 5 (Keegan 2, Cassells 2, Ball)
COVENTRY (2) 5 (Whitton 2, Hateley 3) 18,522

Southampton: Katalinic, Golac, Holmes, Williams, Nicholl, Whitlock (Wallace), Keegan, Channon, Cassells, Armstrong, Ball.

Coventry: Armstrong, Ball, Butterworth, Dyson, Gillespie, Whitton, Francis, Hateley, Thompson, Hunt.

WEST HAM (0) 1 (Stewart pen)
SUNDERLAND (1) 1 (West) 17,130

West Ham: Parkes, Stewart, La Ronde, Allen, Orr, Davonshire, Van der Elst, Goddard, Cross, Brooking, Pike.

Sunderland: Turner, Hinnigan, Munro, Hindmarch, Chisholm, Elliott, Buckley, West, Rowell, Pickering, Cummins.

Second Division

BARNLEY (0) 0
LEICESTER (1) 2 (Welsh, Lineker) 15,418
Barnley: Horn, Law, Chambers, Mann (Riley), Banks, McCarthy, Evans, Walker, Aylott, McHale, Birch.
Leicester: Wallington, Kelly (Welsh), Friar, Peake, May, O'Neill, Lynex, Lineker, Melrose, Ramsey, McDonald.

BOLTON (1) 3 (Thompson 2, Henry)
DERBY (2) 2 (Attley, George) 5,226
Bolton: McDonagh, Whitworth, Bennett, Henry, Jones Doyle, Chandler, Hoggan, Reid, Thompson.
Derby: Banovic, Barton (Wilson), Buckley, Skivington, Sheridan, McAlle, Powell, Attley, George, Swindlehurst, Emson.

CAMBRIDGE (1) 1 (Reilly)
BLACKBURN (0) 0 3,203

Cambridge: Webster, Turner, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Streete, Donaldson, Spriggs, Reilly, Finney, Cartwright.
Blackburn: Butcher, Branagan, Rathbone, Speight, Keeley, Fazackerley, Miller, Stonehouse, Bell, Garner, Brotherston.

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Keegan)
CHARLTON (0) 0 2,904

Oldham: Goram, Sinclair, Ryan, Keegan, Hoolickin, Fletcher, Wyld, Heaton, Bowden, Palmer, McDonough.

Charlton: Johns, Naylor, Elliott, Mehmet, Gritt, Phillips, Ferns, Walsh, Berry, Lansdowne, Robinson (Ambrose).

ROTHERHAM (1) 2 (Moore, Hughes pen)
SHEFFIELD WED. (1) 2 (Bannister 2) 20,513

Rotherham: Mountford, Forrest, Breckin, Hughes, Stancliffe, Green, Towner, Gow, Moore, Seaman, McEwan.

Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Blackhall, Williamson, Smith, Shirliff, Taylor, Megson, Shelton, Bannister, McCulloch, Curran.

SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (Atkins)
CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0 3,159

Shrewsbury: Wardle, MacLaren, Johnson, Turner, Griffin, Keay, Tong, McNally, Atkins, Cross, Bates.

C. Palace: Barron, Lovell, Hinchelwood, Price, Cannon, Gilbert, Giles, Smillie, Murphy, Mabbutt, Hilaire (Wilkins).

WATFORD (1) 2 (Jenkins 2)
WREXHAM (0) 0 20,028

Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Rostron, Taylor, Sims, Bolton, Callaghan, Blissett, Jenkins, Lohman, Barnes.

Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Jones, Bater, Cegielski, Dowman, Ronson, Leman, McNeil (Vinter), Edwards, Fox, Carrodus.



Watford's Ross Jenkins (No. 9) heads Watford to promotion against Wrexham.

Third Division

BURNLEY (0) 1 (McGee)
CARLISLE (0) 0 9,899

DONCASTER (1) 1 (Mell)
SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Nelson) 3,734

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Cascarino)
LINCOLN (0) 0 3,245

HUDDERSFIELD (3) 5 (Boyle (og), Cowling, Robins, Stanton, Wilson)
BRISTOL CITY (0) 0 3,468

MILLWALL (1) 3 (Horrix, Chatterton pen, West)
CHESTERFIELD (1) 2 (Hunter, Kowalski) 2,265

PRESTON (1) 2 (Bruce, Kelly)
NEWPORT (0) 1 (Vaughan) 4,972

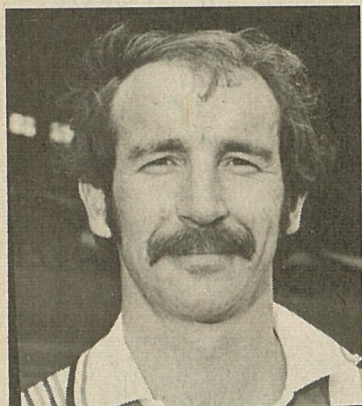
SWINDON (0) 3 (Rideout 2, Carter)
OXFORD (0) 2 (Jeffrey, Fogg pen) 7,880

WIMBLEDON (1) 2 (Serella (og), Evans)
WALSALL (0) 0 1,504

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Fourth Division

HALIFAX (0) 2 (Davison 2)	
NORTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Sandy)	1,730
HULL (1) 1 (Marwood)	
BLACKPOOL (0) 0	3,206
SCUNTHORPE (1) 2 (Telfer, Cammack)	
BURY (1) 2 (Hilton (P), Madden pen)	1,106
SHEFFIELD UTD (2) 3 (Hutton, Edwards 2)	
ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Welling)	21,140



Sheffield United's Bob Hutton.

TRANMERE (2) 2 (Hutchison, Brown)	
STOCKPORT (0) 0	1,212
WIGAN 0	
BOURNEMOUTH 0	9,021
YORK (1) 4 (Walwyn, Ford, Byrne, Hood)	
ALDERSHOT (0) 0	1,571

Wednesday, May 5

First Division

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 1 (Power)	
NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0	24,443
Man. City: Corrigan, Ryan, McDonald, Reid, Bond, Caton, Kinsey, Reeves, Boyer, Hartford, Power.	
Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Goodwin (McParland), Kilcline, Richards, Chiedoie, Hunt, McCulloch, Christie, Mair.	

NOTTM. FOREST (0) 0	
MANCHESTER UTD (1) 1 (Stapleton)	18,499
Nottm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gunn, Needham, Young, Bowyer, Roeber, Proctor (Wash), Davenport, Wallace, Robertson.	
Man. Utd: Bailey, Gidman, Albiston, Wilkins, Moran, Duxbury, Robson, McGarvey, Stapleton, Grimes, Coppell.	

STOKE (1) 1 (Bracewell)	
ASTON VILLA (0) 0	10,363
Stoke: Fox, Dodd, Parkin, Griffiths, Watson, O'Callaghan, McIlroy, Biley, Chapman, Bracewell, Maguire.	
Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Williams, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Shaw, Withe, Cowans, Morley (Blair).	

TOTTENHAM (1) 2 (Brooke 2)	
SWANSEA (0) 1 (James (L))	26,348
Tottenham: Aleksic, Hughton, Corbett, Roberts, Lacy, Perryman, O'Reilly, Archibald, Falco, Brooke, Crooks (Jones).	
Swansea: Davies, Robinson, Marustik, Evans (Stanley), Mahoney, Rajkovic, Curtis, James (R), James (L), Stevenson, Walsh.	

WBA (0) 1 (Owen)	
IPSWICH (1) 2 (Gates, Brazil)	12,564
WBA: Godden, Batson, Cowdrill, Bennett, Wile, Robertson, Zondervan, Brown, Regis, Owen, MacKenzie (Monaghan).	
Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Gernon, Mills, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, McCall, Brazil, Gates (O'Callaghan).	

Second Division

CHELSEA (2) 2 (Lee, Mayes)	
ORIENT (0) 2 (Houchen, Locke (og))	6,009
Chelsea: Francis, Locke, Roie (Chivers), Hutchings, Droy, Pates, Walker, Britton, Lee, Mayes, Fillyer.	
Orient: Day, Foster, Peach, Fisher, Taylor, Cunningham, Godfrey, Silkman, Houchen, Moores (McNeil), Margerrison.	

NEWCASTLE (0) 0	
QPR (3) 4 (Gregory, Allen, Flanagan, Stainrod)	10,670
Newcastle: Carr, Brownlie, Saunders, Treweek (Ferris), Carney, Haddock, Mills, Martin, Varadi, Bell, Waddle.	
QPR: Hucker, Fenwick, Gillard, Waddock, Wicks, Roeder, Flanagan, Micklewhite (Burke), Allen, Stainrod, Gregory.	

NORWICH (0) 2 (Deehan, Bertschin)	
GRIMSBY (0) 1 (Whymark)	18,360
Norwich: Woods, Haylock, Downs, McGuire, Walford, Watson, Barham, O'Neill, Deehan (Jack), Bertschin, Bennett.	
Grimsbly: Batch, Stone, Crosby, Waters, Cooper, Crombie, Ford, Kilmore, Whymark, Moore (Beacock), Broly.	

Third Division

CHESTER (0) 0	
FULHAM (1) 2 (Coney, Tempest)	1,174
EXETER (2) 3 (Kellow, Pratt 2)	
PORTSMOUTH (1) 3 (Rafferty, Tait 2)	2,596

Fourth Division

BRADFORD (2) 4 (McNiven 4)	
CREWE (0) 1 (Williams)	5,393
HARTLEPOOL (0) 3 (Newton, Staff, Linacre)	
MANSFIELD (0) 0	1,202
HEREFORD (1) 2 (Spirling, Showers)	
PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Kellock)	2,357

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Brown)	
DARLINGTON (2) 2 (Walsh, Skipper)	1,278

Scottish Premier

DUNDEE UTD (1) 1 (Hegarty)	
ABERDEEN (2) 2 (Hewitt 2)	6,587
Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Holt, Stark, Gough, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Milne, Kirkwood, Sturrock, Dadds.	
Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, Rougie, McMaster, McLeish, Miller, Strachan, Cooper, McGhee, Simpson, Hewitt.	

RANGERS (1) 3 (MacDonald, McAdam, Redford)	
ST. MIRREN (0) 0	4,500
Rangers: Stewart, Jardine, Miller, McClelland, McAdam, Bett, Cooper, Dalziel, Johnstone, Redford, MacDonald.	
St. Mirren: Thomson, Beckett, McAvetty, Fitzpatrick, Fulton, Copland, McDougall, Stark, Somner, McAvennie, Abercrombie.	

Friday, May 7

Fourth Division

COLCHESTER (0) 0	
STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Phillips)	2,132
YORK (1) 4 (Davison (og), Walwyn, Byrne, Hood pen)	
HALIFAX (0) 0	2,423

Saturday, May 8

First Division

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0	
LIVERPOOL (0) 1 (Rush)	26,381
Birmingham: Coton, Langan, Hawker, Stevenson, Van den Hauwe, Curbishley van Mierlo, Dillon, Harford, Broadhurst, Evans.	
Liverpool: Grobbelaar, Neal, Lawrenson, Kennedy, Lee, Whelan (Johnston), Thompson, Dalglish, Rush, Hansen, Souness.	

BRIGHTON (0) 0	
IPSWICH (1) 1 (Mariner)	17,786
Brighton: Moseley, Shanks, Nelson, Stevens, Foster, Gattling, Case, Ritchie, Robinson, McNab (Grealish), Thomas.	
Ipswich: Sivell, Burley, Gernon, Mills, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, McCall.	

EVERTON (1) 1 (Eastoe)	
WOLVES (1) 1 (Clarke)	20,124
Everton: Southall, Borrows, Walsh, Higgins, Wright, McMahon, Irvine, Heath, Sharp, Eastoe, Ross.	
Wolves: Bradshaw, Humphrey, Atkinson, Eves, Gallagher, Coy, Hibbitt, Carr, Matthews, Richards, Clarke.	

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 1 (Francis)	
COVENTRY (2) 3 (Whitton 3)	27,580
Man. City: Williams, May, McDonald, Reid, Bond, Caton, Boyer, Reeves, Francis, Hartford, Power.	
Coventry: Sealey, Jacobs, Roberts, Butterworth, Dyson, Gillespie, Whitton, Singleton, Hateley (Hormant-schuk), Thompson, Hunt.	

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 (Baxter)	
ARSENAL (1) 3 (Talbot, Davis, Rix)	9,565
Middlesbrough: Platt, Craggs, Bailey, Bolton (Shearer), Baxter, Wood, McAndrew, Otto, Hodgson, Ashcroft, Thomas.	
Arsenal: Wood, Hollins, Sansom, Talbot, O'Leary, Whyte, Davis (Nicholas), Sunderland, Hawley, Robson, Rix.	

NOTTM. FOREST (0) 0	
SWANSEA (1) 2 (James (R) 2)	15,037
Nottm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gunn, Needham, Young, Bowyer, Roeber, Proctor (Walsh), Davenport, Wallace, Robertson.	
Swansea: Davies, Robinson, Hadziabdic, Thompson, Mahoney, Rajkovic, Curtis, James (R), James (L), Stevenson, Latchford (Marustik).	

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Armstrong)	
SUNDERLAND (0) 0	21,110
Southampton: Katalinic, Golac, Holmes, Williams, Nicholl, Whitlock, Keegan, Channon, Cassells, Armstrong, Ball.	
Sunderland: Turner, Hinnigan, Munro, Hindmarch, Chisholm, Elliott, Buckley, West, Rowell, Pickering, Cummins (Clarke).	

STOKE (2) 2 (Watson, Maguire)	
NOTTS COUNTY (1) 2 (Christie pen, Richards)	11,011
Stoke: McManus, Dodd, Parkin, Griffiths, Watson, O'Callaghan, McIlroy, Biley, Chapman, Bracewell, Maguire.	
Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Goodwin (Harkouk), Kilcline, Richards, Chiedoie, Hunt, McCulloch, Christie, Mair.	

TOTTENHAM (1) 2 (Burns (og), Brooke)	
LEEDS (0) 1 (Worthington)	35,020
Tottenham: Clemence, Hughton, Corbett, Brooke, Lacy, Perryman, O'Reilly, Crook (Jones), Falco, Hoddle, Crooks.	
Leeds: Lukic, Cherry, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Burns (Hird), Gray (E), Graham, Worthington, Connor, Barnes.	

WBA (0) 0	
ASTON VILLA (0) 1 (Heard)	19,650
WBA: Godden, Batson, Statham, Bennett, Wile, Robertson, Zondervan, Brown, Regis, Owen, Monaghan.	
Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Williams, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Shaw, Withe, Cowans, Heard.	

WEST HAM (0) 1 (Cross)	
MANCHESTER UTD (0) 1 (Moran)	26,337
West Ham: Parkes, Stewart, La Ronde, Allen, Orr, Devonshire, Cowie, Goddard, Cross, Brooking, Pike.	
Man. Utd: Bailey, Gidman, Albiston, Wilkins, Moran, Duxbury, Moses, Birtles (McGarvey), Stapleton, Grimes, Coppell.	

Second Division

BARNLEY (0) 3 (Birch, Aylott, Walker)	
QPR (0) 0	10,579
Barnley: Horn, Law, Chambers, Riley, Banks, McCarthy, Evans, Walker, Aylott, McHale, Birch.	
QPR: Hucker, Fenwick, Gillard, Waddock, Hazell, Wicks, Micklewhite, Flanagan, Allen, Stainrod (Burke), Roeder.	

BOLTON (1) 3 (Chandler, Gowling, Henry)	
SHEFFIELD WED (1) 1 (Curran)	15,657
Bolton: McDonagh, Whitworth, Bennett, Henry, Jones, Doyle, Chandler, Hoggan, Gowling, Reid, Thompson.	
Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Williamson, Mellor, Smith, Shirliff (Peter), Taylor, Megson, Shelton (Owen), Bannister, McCulloch, Curran.	

CAMBRIDGE (1) 4 (Spriggs, Reilly 2, Streete)	
CHARLTON (0) 0	4,281
Cambridge: Webster, Turner, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Streete, Donaldson, Spriggs, Reilly, Finney, Cartwright.	
Charlton: Johns, Naylor, Elliott, Mehmet, Gritt, Phillips, Ferns (Robinson), Walsh, Berry, Lansdowne, Ambrose.	

CARDIFF (0) 0	
CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 1 (Mabbutt)	5,762
Cardiff: Dibble, Jones, Polycarpou, Pontin, Micallef, Mullen, Grapes, Gilbert, Kitchen (Maddy), Bennett (D), Stevens.	
C. Palace: Barron, Hinshelwood, Lovell, Murphy, Cannon, Gilbert, Giles, Smillie, Price (Wilkins), Mabbutt, Hilaire.	

CHELSEA (1) 1 (Walker)	
LUTON (1) 2 (Antic, Stein)	15,044
Chelsea: Francis, Locke, Hutchings, Lee, Droy, Pates, Rhoades-Brown (Canoville), Chivers, Walker, Mayes, Fillyer.	
Luton: Findlay, Stephens, Money, Horton, Goodyear, Donaghy, Antic, Stein, White, Fuccillo, Moss.	

NEWCASTLE (2) 4 (Brownlie, Waddle, Varadi, Treweek (pen))	
WREXHAM (0) 2 (Edwards, Hill)	9,447
Newcastle: Carr, Brownlie, Saunders (Wharton), Treweek, Barton, Halliday, Mills, Martin, Varadi, Cartwright, Waddle.	

Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Hill, Jones, Cegielski, Downman, Ronson, Arkwright (Buxton), Fox, Edwards, Vinter, Carrodus.	
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NORWICH (0) 2 (Bertschin pen, Bennett)	
ORIENT (0) 0	19,197
Norwich: Woods, Haylock, Downs, McGuire, Walford, Watson, Barham, O'Neill, Deehan (Jack), Bertschin, Bennett.	
Orient: Day, Foster, Peach, Cornwell, Gray, Cunningham, Godfrey, Sussex, Houchen, McNeil, Margerrison.	

OLDHAM (0) 1 (Wylde pen)	
DERBY (1) 1 (Wilson)	4,296
Oldham: Goram, Sinclair, Ryan, Keegan, Hoolickin, Fletcher, Wylde, Palmer (Steel), Bowden, McDonough, Anderson.	
Derby: Banovic, Attley, Buckley, Skivington, Sheridan, McAlle, George (Hector), Powell, Wilson, Swindlehurst, Emson.	

ROTHERHAM (0) 4 (Green 2, McEwan, Moore)	
BLACKBURN (1) 1 (Fazackerley)	8,333
Rotherham: Mimms, Forrest, Breckin, Hughes (Fern), Stancliffe, Green, Towner, Gow, Moore, Seaman, McEwan.	
Blackburn: Butcher, Branagan, Rathbone, Speight, Keeley, Fazackerley, Miller (Burke), Stonehouse, Bell, Garner, Brotherston.	

SHREWSBURY (1) 2 (Cross 2)	
GRIMSBY (0) 0	4,036
Shrewsbury: Wardle, Leonard, Johnson, Turner, Griffin, MacLaren, Tong, McNally, Atkins, Cross, Bates.	
Grimsbly: Batch, Moore (D), Crosby, Waters, Cooper, Crombie, Ford, Drinkell, Whymark, Stone, Cumming (Broly).	

WATFORD (3) 3 (Barnes 2, Blissett)	
LEICESTER (0) 1 (Melrose)	20,859
Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Rostron, Taylor, Sims, Bolton, Callaghan, Blissett, Jenkins (Armstrong), Lohman, Barnes.	
Leicester: Wallington, Lynex, Friar, Peake, May, O'Neill, Melrose, Lineker (Welsh), Young, Ramsey, MacDonald.	

Third Division

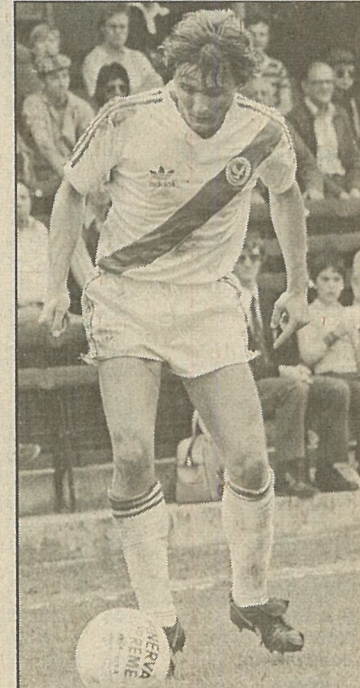
BRISTOL ROVERS (2) 2 (Williams (B) pen, Williams (D))	
PLYMOUTH (1) 3 (Uzzell, Sims, Rogers)	4,025

BURNLEY (1) 2 (McGee, Young)	
WALSALL (0) 1 (Rees)	8,543

CHESTER (0) 1 (Jones)	
LINCOLN (0) 2 (Cockerill, Shipley pen)	1,176

DONCASTER (1) 2 (Mell 2)	
FULHAM (1) 1 (Coney)	4,729

EXETER (0) 1 (Marker)	
SOUTHEND (1) 1 (Mercer)	3,174



Crystal Palace striker Kevin Mabbutt, scorer of his side's winner at Cardiff.

HOW THEY FINISHED

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Liverpool	42	26	9	7	80	32	87
2. Ipswich	42	26	5	11	75	53	83
3. Man. Utd.	42	22	12	8	59	29	78
4. Spurs	42	20	11	11	67	48	71
5. Arsenal	42	20	11	11	48	37	71
6. Swansea	42	21	6	15	58	51	69
7. S'oton	42	19	9	14	72	67	66
8. Everton	42	17	13	12	56	50	64
9. W. Ham	42	14	16	12	66	57	58
10. Man. City	42	15	13	14	49	50	58
11. A. Villa	42	15	12	15	55	53	57
12. Nottm. Forest	42	15	12	15	42	48	57
13. Brighton	42	13	13	16	43	52	52
14. Coventry	42	13	11	18	56	62	50
15. Notts Co.	42	13	8	21	61	69	47
16. Birmingham	42	10	14	18	53	61	44
17. WBA	42	11	11	20	46	57	44
18. Stoke	42	12	8	22	44	63	44
19. Sunderland	42	11	11	20	38	58	44
20. Leeds	42	10	12	20	39	61	42
21. Wolves	42	10	10	22	32	63	40
22. Middlesbrough	42	8	15	19	34	52	39



Arsenal's Alan Sunderland celebrates his goal in the 4-3 defeat of Aston Villa.

FOURTH DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Sheffield Utd.	46	27	15	4	94	41	96
2. Bradford C.	46	26	13	7	88	45	91
3. Wigan	46	26	13	7	80	46	91
4. Bournemouth	46	23	19	4	62	30	88
5. Peterborough	46	24	10	12	71	57	82
6. Colchester	46	20	12	14	82	57	72
7. Port Vale	46	18	16	12	56	49	70
8. Hull	46	19	12	15	70	61	69
9. Bury	46	17	17	12	80	59	68
10. Hereford	46	16	19	11	64	58	67
11. Tranmere	46	14	18	14	51	56	60
12. Blackpool	46	15	13	18	66	60	58
13. Darlington	46	15	13	18	61	62	58
14. Hartlepool	46	13	16	17	73	84	55
15. Torquay	46	14	13	19	47	59	55
16. Aldershot	46	13	15	18	57	68	54
17. York	46	14	8	24	69	91	50
18. Stockport	46	12	13	21	48	67	49
19. Halifax	46	9	22	15	51	72	49
20. Mansfield*	46	13	10	23	63	81	47
21. Rochdale	46	10	16	20	50	62	46
22. Northampton	46	11	9	26	57	84	42
23. Scunthorpe	46	9	15	22	43	79	42
24. Crewe	46	6	9	31	29	84	27

* Two points deducted by League for playing unregistered player

1981-82

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Luton	42	25	13	4	86	44	88
2. Watford	42	23	11	8	76	42	80
3. Norwich	42	22	5	15	64	50	71
4. Sheff. Wed.	42	20	10	12	55	51	70
5. QPR	42	21	6	15	65	43	69
6. Barnsley	42	19	10	13	59	41	67
7. Rotherham	42	20	7	15	66	54	67
8. Leicester	42	18	12	12	56	48	66
9. Newcastle	42	18	8	16	52	50	62
10. Blackburn	42	16	11	15	47	43	59
11. Oldham	42	15	14	13	50	51	59
12. Chelsea	42	15	12	15	60	60	57
13. Charlton	42	13	12	17	50	65	51
14. Cambridge	42	13	9	20	48	53	48
15. C. Palace	42	13	9	20	34	45	48
16. Derby	42	12	12	18	53	68	48
17. Grimsby	42	11	13	18	53	65	46
18. Shrewsbury	42	11	13	18	37	57	46
19. Bolton	42	13	7	22	39	61	46
20. Cardiff	42	12	8	22	45	61	44
21. Wrexham	42	11	11	20	40	56	44
22. Orient	42	10	9	23	36	61	39



Sheffield Wednesday's Garry Bannister scores at Oldham.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Celtic	36	24	7	5	79	33	55
2. Aberdeen	36	23	7	6	71	29	53
3. Rangers	36	16	11	9	57	45	43
4. Dundee Utd.	36	15	10	11	61	38	40
5. St. Mirren	36	14	9	13	49	52	37
6. Hibs	36	11	14	11	38	40	36
7. Morton	36	9	12	15	31	54	30
8. Dundee	36	11	4	21	46	72	26
9. Partick	36	6	10	20	35	59	22
10. Airdrie	36	5	8	23	31	76	18

SCOTTISH FIRST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Motherwell	39	26	9	4	92	36	61
2. Kilmarnock	39	17	17	5	60	29	51
3. Hearts	39	21	8	10	55	37	50
4. Clydebank	39	19	8	12	61	53	46
5. St. Johnstone	39	17	8	14	69	60	42
6. Ayr	39	15	12	12	56	50	42
7. Hamilton	39	16	8	15	52	49	40
8. Queen's Park	39	13	10	16	41	41	36
9. Falkirk	39	11	14	14	49	52	36
10. Dunfermline	39	11	14	14	46	56	36
11. Dumbarton	39	13	9	17	49	61	35
12. Raith	39	11	7	21	31	59	29
13. E. Stirling	39	7	10	22	38	77	24
14. QoS	39	4	10	25	44	93	18

THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Burnley	46	21	17	8	66	45	80
2. Carlisle	46	23	11	12	65	50	80
3. Fulham	46	21	15	10	77	51	78
4. Lincoln	46	21	14	11	66	40	77
5. Oxford	46	19	14	13	63	49	71
6. Gillingham	46	20	11	15	64	56	71
7. Southend	46	18	15	13	63	51	69
8. Brentford	46	19	11	16	56	47	68
9. Millwall	46	18	13	15	62	62	67
10. Plymouth	46	18	11	17	64	56	65
11. Chesterfield	46	18	10	18	57	58	64
12. Reading	46	17	11	18	67	75	62
13. Portsmouth	46	14	19	13	56	51	61
14. Preston	46	16	13	17	50	56	61
15. Bristol Rovers*	46	18	9	19	58	65	61
16. Newport	46	14	16	16	54	54	58
17. Huddersfield	46	15	12	19	64	59	57
18. Exeter	46	16	9	21	71	84	57
19. Doncaster	46	13	17	16	55	68	56
20. Walsall	46	13	14	19	51	55	53
21. Wimbledon	46	14	11	21	61	75	53
22. Swindon	46	13	13	20	55	71	52
23. Bristol City	46	11	13	22	40	65	46
24. Chester	46	7	11	28	36	78	32

*Two points deducted by League for playing unregistered player.



Fulham star Peter O'Sullivan (left) in action against Huddersfield.



Scottish First Division Champions Motherwell take on Clydebank.

SCOTTISH SECOND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1. Clyde	39	24	11	4	79	38	59
2. Alloa	39	19	12	8	66	42	50
3. Arbroath	39	20	10	9	62	50	50
4. Berwick	39	20	8	11	66	38	48
5. Brechin	39	18	10	11	61	42	46
6. Forfar	39	15	15	9	59	35	45
7. East Fife	39	14	9	16	48	51	37
8. Stirling	39	12	11	16	39	44	35
9. Cowdenbeath	39	11	13	15	51	57	35
10. Montrose	39	12	8	19	49	75	32
11. Albion	39	13	5	21	52	76	31
12. Meadowbank	39	10	10	19	49	62	30
13. Stenhousemuir	39	11	6	22	41	65	28
14. Stranraer	39	7	6	26	36	87	20

Staying Up...

Sunderland's New Young Star



very annoyed with myself but I had five or six months left at Sunderland and wasn't going to waste it.

"I knew I had to buckle down and make a good impression on the staff or else I would be out of the club in the summer."

The 19-year-old from Wallsend-on-Tyne returned to Sunderland's training ground for extra workouts in the afternoons, but as Easter approached the future looked even bleaker for him.

Anxious to put some of his players in a better 'shop window' than reserve-team football, Sunderland manager Alan Durban offered a number of Roker players to clubs (on the basis that Sunderland would continue to pay their wages until the end of the season).

Colin West was one of them — but nobody stepped in for him before the transfer deadline.

With relegation staring Sunderland in the face, Alan Durban called his players to a 'clear the air' crisis meeting, during which West stated his belief that he was the club's best centre-forward and deserved another chance.

Priceless

Durban gave him that chance and West obliged by netting six priceless goals to guide Sunderland to First Division safety.

The goals earned West the security of a new contract and provided Sunderland with one of their most promising striking talents for many a year.

Ironically, West was still dreading the close season, but for a much better reason. As he explained: "I enjoyed my run in the first team a great deal. The only trouble is that the season came to an end too soon for me — just when I was getting into my stride."

"Now I'll have to start from scratch and try and start off on the right foot next season, otherwise people might write me off as a flash in the pan."

"I don't think I've proved myself as a Sunderland first-team regular yet," he says. "I've learned something new from every senior game I've played in and I can see that continuing to happen for quite a while yet. You have to take each game as it comes. It's the only way to progress."

SUNDERLAND striker Colin West has been dreading the close season ever since he trudged off the Roker Park pitch following Sunderland's Third Round League Cup exit at the hands of Crystal Palace last November.

For Sunderland, then anchored at the foot of the First Division table, it was their sixth defeat in seven matches and for West it was the second successive match in which he had squandered a chance to stake a regular claim for the Wearside's number 9 shirt.

With his contract ending in May, the 6ft 2ins blond-haired forward was convinced he was on his way out of big-time football.

"I thought I had missed a golden opportunity," he recalls. "I played terribly and was, to say the least,

Going Down...

WHEN Middlesbrough were promoted to the First Division in 1974, two of their most outstanding talents were goalkeeper Jim Platt and full-back John Craggs.

Next season, one of these two, Jim Platt, once again faces the task of helping Boro back to the First Division following relegation.

Platt is a survivor, but he is not particularly relishing a return to Division Two.

Says Platt: "I've enjoyed my time at the top, and it will seem strange playing at a lower level."

"Playing in the Second Division is a challenge, but not one I face out of choice."

"Our current predicament is certainly not one I would have anticipated a few years ago, particularly just after coming up under Jack Charlton."

"Morale was tremendous at that time. We were ready to take on the best and were confident enough to believe we could actually challenge for the Championship."

"We were only two players short of a really strong squad, but they never arrived."

"The boss decided to stay loyal to the men who had won promotion, but if we had introduced new blood at that time I'm sure we could have been successful."

Craggs, who is one of a number of Ayresome Park players who has been given a free transfer, can foresee a few problems for newly-relegated Middlesbrough.

He says: "We still haven't got over the loss of our entire midfield a year ago."

"We need two new midfield men and another striker if we are going to do anything next season."

"But money is short, so Bobby Murdoch may have to go into the lower Divisions to come up with the fresh talent we need."

'Essential'

"Relying on youngsters is too risky. We can't afford to wait for them to develop because it is essential that we go flat out to win promotion straight away."

For Jim Platt, Craggs' longstanding colleague at Ayresome Park, relegation came as no surprise.

"The danger signs were always apparent," he says. "There was a certain inevitability about going down and so I suppose we were all prepared for the drop."

"But relegation is still a bitter pill for me to swallow. It is one of the biggest disappointments of my career."

Middlesbrough's Old Timers



"Next season might not be so bad if we start a programme of intensive team rebuilding."

"At the moment Middlesbrough are at the crossroads and what happens during the next few months could be crucial to everybody at this club."

"It isn't impossible for us to develop a winning side again."

"We have done it before and we can do it again."

Jim Platt

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STAMFORD BRIDGE SHOCK

CHELSEA were within ten days of closing down near the end of the season. The shock news emerged only after Ken Bates had promised a £400,000 bond to guarantee the club's survival.

For Colin Lee, it brought home the dangers and worries in modern day football.

Lee, the former Tottenham player who had to fill in as emergency defender for Chelsea near the end of the season, had a long serious think about his future when the club seemed in peril.

And his thoughts underline the harsh realities of soccer in the 80's as the game struggles against a growing tide of economic danger.

Lee said: "The new chairman forked out a vast sum to meet the wage bill and other expenses.

"Otherwise, we wouldn't have had any money, that was how bad the situation was. There would not have been a Chelsea FC next season.

"No one really knows how bad it was.

"Lately, the players have worried about whether they would be paid.

"And with wives, children and mortgages to look after, it is no joke. It worried me that things had reached that stage."

It worried Lee, too, to see the general attitude of some of the younger players, in terms of playing performances on the field and reaction to the current damaging trends within the game.

Lee says: "Some of the youngsters don't seem aware of the dangers. They think their wages will always be there for them to pick up.

"They have the attitude that if things don't work out for them at this club there will be another club in the lower Divisions willing to offer them a contract.

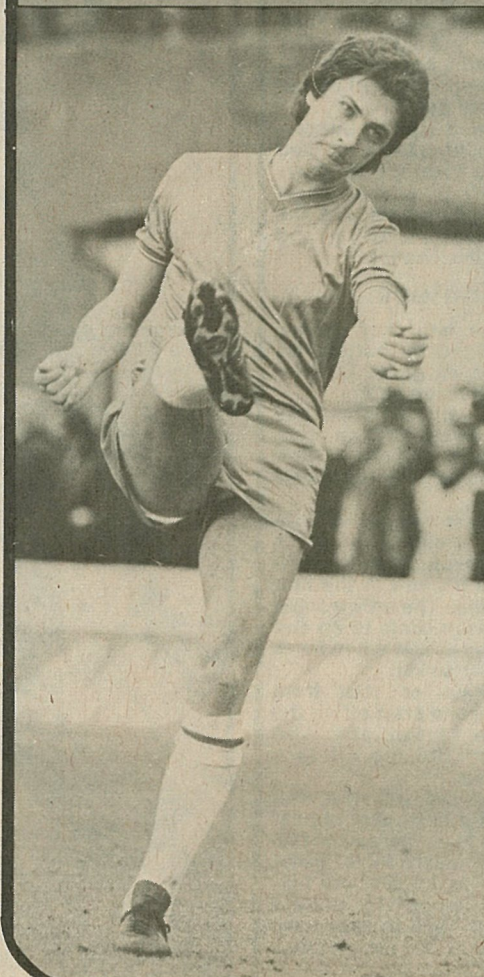
"All that is changing. Clubs won't be taking on too many players this summer, even if they're on free transfers.

"They've still got to be paid and that is the important factor."

On the playing side, Lee is also disappointed with some colleagues. He says: "We gave two performances near the end of the season which highlighted the problem.

"We went to Luton, got a great 2-2 draw and led twice. We buzzed, we worked hard for every ball and played superbly.

CHELSEA WERE ON BRINK OF CLOSURE



"We contributed to a fine match. When we came off the field, I said to Micky Droy 'we'll go up next season if we keep playing like that.'

"Three days later we played Derby at home and lost 0-2.

"It was one of the worst performances I've ever seen from any team, and one of the worst games I've ever played in.

"We were a shambles, totally unrecognisable from the team at Luton three days earlier.

"It's that kind of Jekyll and Hyde character that is our problem.

"We've got to put in everything for 42 games, not just a handful.

"Some players seem to think they need not bother in certain games and with that attitude this club will never go anywhere."

Waste

Lee fears that the new Chelsea supremo won't waste all his money if things don't start to improve soon.

"He's not going to pump in money for the sake of it. Why should he — he doesn't owe anyone at Chelsea a living.

"Next season is very important for me. I want it to be a successful one.

"I have only one year left on my contract and I am disappointed at playing in the Second Division all the time. I'd love to reach Division One with Chelsea.

"But if everyone doesn't have the same determination and commitment, we are going to have a job getting back there."

Lee's straight talking is what is needed at Chelsea. He is by no means the first person to suggest failings in certain quarters within the Chelsea side. He may not be the last.

The job facing John Neal is a huge one. Time and money are not commodities on his side.

He will need characters like Colin Lee in 1982-83 — and Micky Droy, too — if Chelsea are to throw off the gloom which has hovered above Stamford Bridge these past few seasons.

GOAL-LINES

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to SHOOT!

This week's £10 Star Letter comes from Pat Ashley of Middlesbrough, who writes:

UNFAIR TO 'KEEPERS

FOOTBALL writers have never stopped bragging about England's inexhaustible supply of world-class goalkeepers, so why have they voted only three of them Footballer of the Year in the past 35 years?

Bert Trautmann literally had to break his neck to earn the commendation and 16 long years elapsed before sanity returned with the award going to Gordon Banks.

The last 'keeper to receive the accolade was Pat Jennings nine years ago.

Five of the last nine awards went to Liverpool men, but not one landed in the so safe hands of Ray Clemence.

It's often said that you have to be a bit mad to be a goalkeeper. The goalkeepers must think there is a similar streak of lunacy among the soccer writers.

● I hope I'm excused. I voted for Ray Clemence (right) this year.



Tony's welcome

IN reply to Liam Farrington's letter of May 22, it must be stated that "any genuine Irish fan" wants the Republic of Ireland to win and so must be delighted that players of the calibre of Tony Galvin are now declaring for Ireland.

JOHN CANNING,
CO. MAYO.

Super Sammy

IT does my heart good to see a player like Liverpool's Sammy Lee.

I have never seen anybody cover so much of the field and make such a telling contribution than the little mid-field man.

CARL ALLEN,
HARTLEPOOL.

Sing Up

I WAS pleased to see that Kevin Keegan gave full commitment while recording England's World Cup song. Many of the lesser players seemed not to bother, but Kevin sang his heart out.

PAUL DAVIES,
W. MALVERN.

● Personally, I wish they'd all stick to football.

Clever Coventry

I READ with interest the item in News Desk in which Jimmy Hill advised clubs to spend big and keep the money within the game.

How many big signings have Hill's club, Coventry, made? NONE.

BRIAN ANDERSON,
SPENNYMOOR.

● Coventry, unlike many less organised clubs, don't believe in spending money which they don't have.

Hammering for glory

ENGLAND won the World Cup in 1966 by including three West Ham players in the team.

Ron Greenwood should build the present England team around current Hammers Trevor Brooking, Alan Devonshire, Alvin Martin and Paul Goddard.

All four have been included in Greenwood's preliminary World Cup squad, and their West Ham training could prove vital.

Perhaps then we will be able to repeat our success of 16 years ago.

ANDREW NICHOLAS,
GWYNEDD.

● Not a West Ham supporter are you?



Lawrie's too loyal

AS an ardent Southampton supporter I was upset with the club's failure in the second part of the season.

The reason for this was, I believe, Lawrie McMenemy's decision to stick by all the old faces such as Chris Nicholl, Ivan Golac, Nick Holmes and Alan Ball (above, stripes).

ALASDAIR MURRAY,
HIGHFIELD.

● Kevin Keegan is more than 30 but he didn't do too badly.

Do your job, Ron

HAVING read with great interest Bill Day's Special Report on Manchester United, I note with some dismay that the club are again looking to buy in order to strengthen the squad.

If the combined expensive talents of Bryan Robson, Remi Moses, Frank Stapleton and John Gidman fail to win the Championship, what can any more imports do?

The truth is that United already have more than adequate ability at hand. It is now the task of manager and coach to prove their ability by moulding the team into a side capable of winning the European Cup.

That is what is expected of Ron Atkinson, and that is what he is paid to do.

JOHN D. SMITH

GOSPORT.

● I feel that Ron has made a good start to his career at Old Trafford.

Cheers Ken



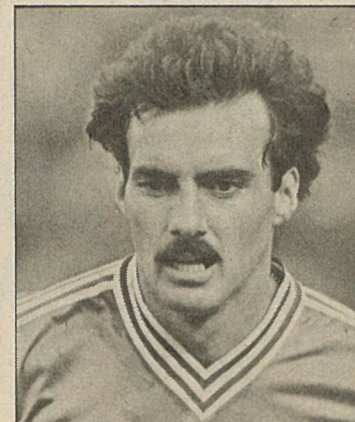
CONGRATULATIONS to Norwich manager Ken Brown (above) in steering the club straight back to the First Division.

Since John Bond left to take over at Manchester City Ken has done a first class job at Carrow Road without receiving the praise he deserves.

MARTYN HARVEY,
WALSALL.

● It's nice to see one of soccer's nice guys winning success.

What about Willie?



I WAS extremely disappointed that none of the Scottish footballers chose Aberdeen's Willie Miller in the article 'Scotland's Team Picked'.

Miller's partnership with Alex McLeish both for club and country is unbeatable and the major reason for Aberdeen conceding only 22 goals in their last 33 League games.

A. HOWIE,
ABERDEEN.

● Don't worry. Jock Stein's opinion is the only one that counts.

Bad Barcelona

I WAS disgusted by the win at any cost attitude adopted by Barcelona during the recent Cup-Winners' Cup Final against Standard Liege.

It amazes me that such a famous and supposedly skilful team can play in such a manner.

MARCUS HART,
UP HOLLAND.

● You obviously didn't see the Semi-Final at Spurs then.

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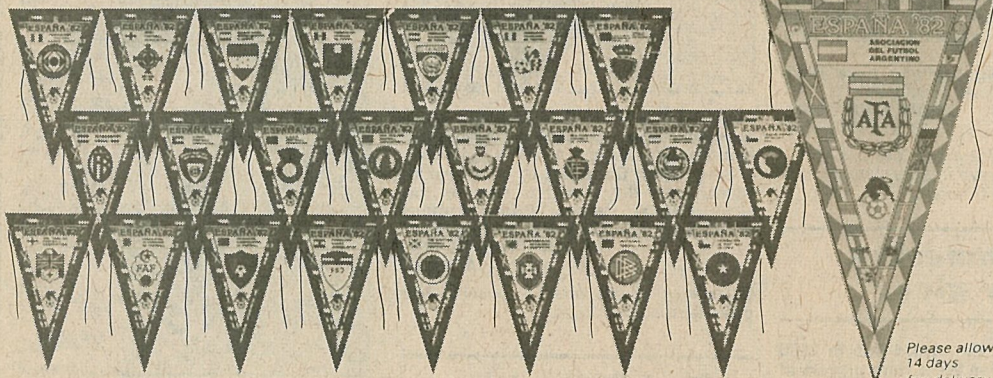
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LUCKY 13



LIVERPOOL ARE CHAMPIONS... for the 13th time since clinching the First Division title in 1901, the year Queen Victoria died. Much of the credit has to go to Bob Paisley, the manager, characteristically missing from the picture we took after Liverpool destroyed Spurs 3-1 to win the trophy. Bob slipped off home, leaving Graeme Souness and his teammates to bask in the glory of their momentous achievement.

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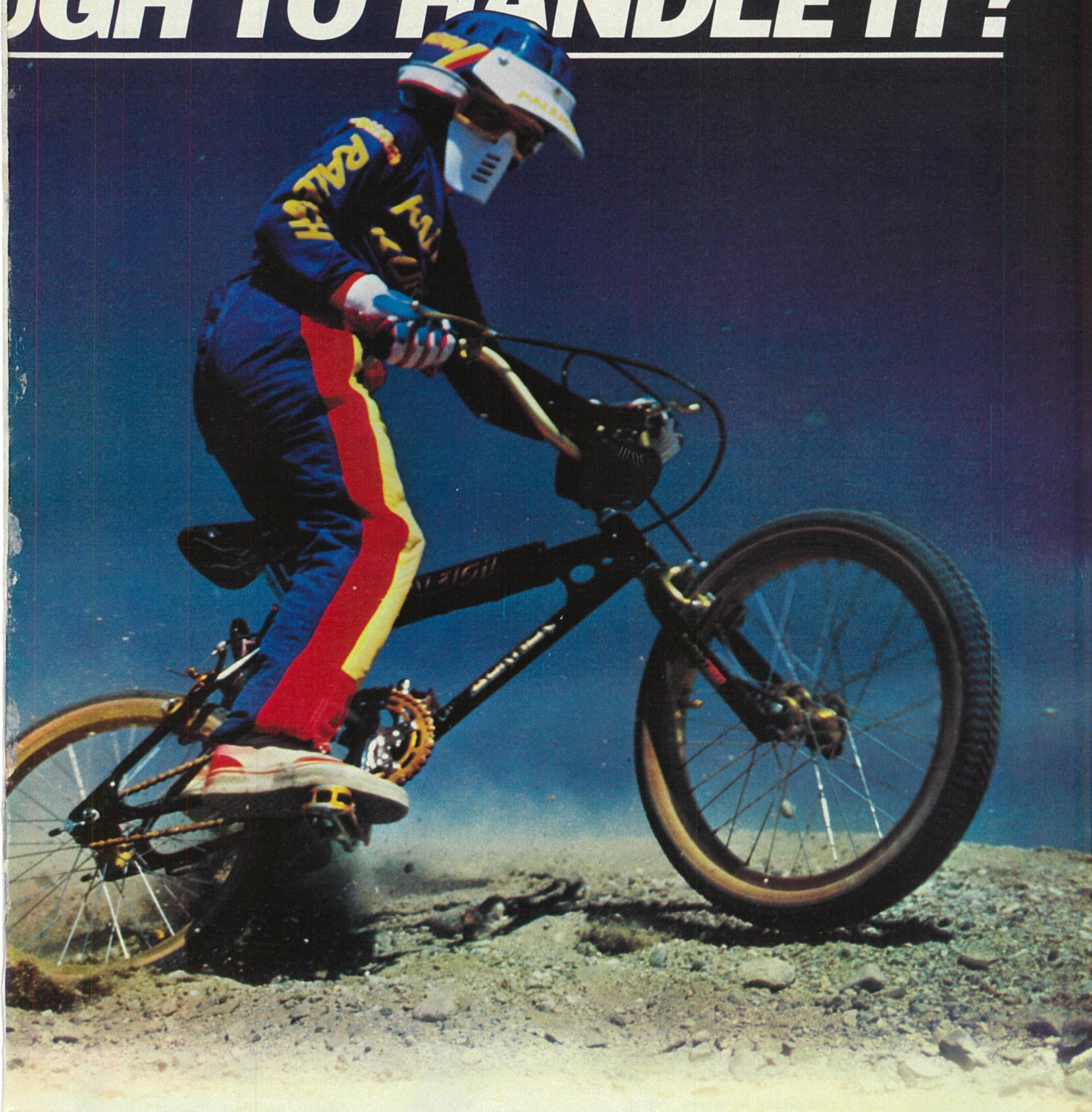
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ZDENEK NEHODA

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

At 30, Nehoda is no newcomer to the international scene, but the Dukla Prague striker is all set to make a belated debut in the World Cup and aims to hit the net in the vital First Round games against England and France.

The lofty, strong, moustachioed sharpshooter burst into the headlines when the Czechs surprisingly won the 1976 European Championship, and Nehoda now heads for Spain with 85 caps already in his possession.

Born in Huline on March 9th, 1952, he began with local side SK Huline; moved on to Gottwaldov; and was still only 19 when he joined Dukla in 1971.

Since then he's won two Leagues and one Cup; was top scorer in 1971 and 1979; and was voted Player of the Year in 1978, 1979 and 1980.

Nehoda knows this is likely to be his one and only chance of World Cup glory, and is bound to test the England defence in Bilbao on June 20th.

LUIS ARCONADA

SPAIN



HE has everything that a great goalkeeper should have. Reflexes, a safe pair of hands, perfect positioning, good judgment and the personality to organise his defence and captain his side from the back.

Like a card-player, he works out all the odds and all the angles.

He reckons a lot of goals stem from 'keepers leaving their line too recklessly, so he prefers to stay put.

Others come from trying to

catch difficult balls, so he prefers to punch well clear.

This will be Arconada's second World Cup, though in Argentina he never left the substitute's bench.

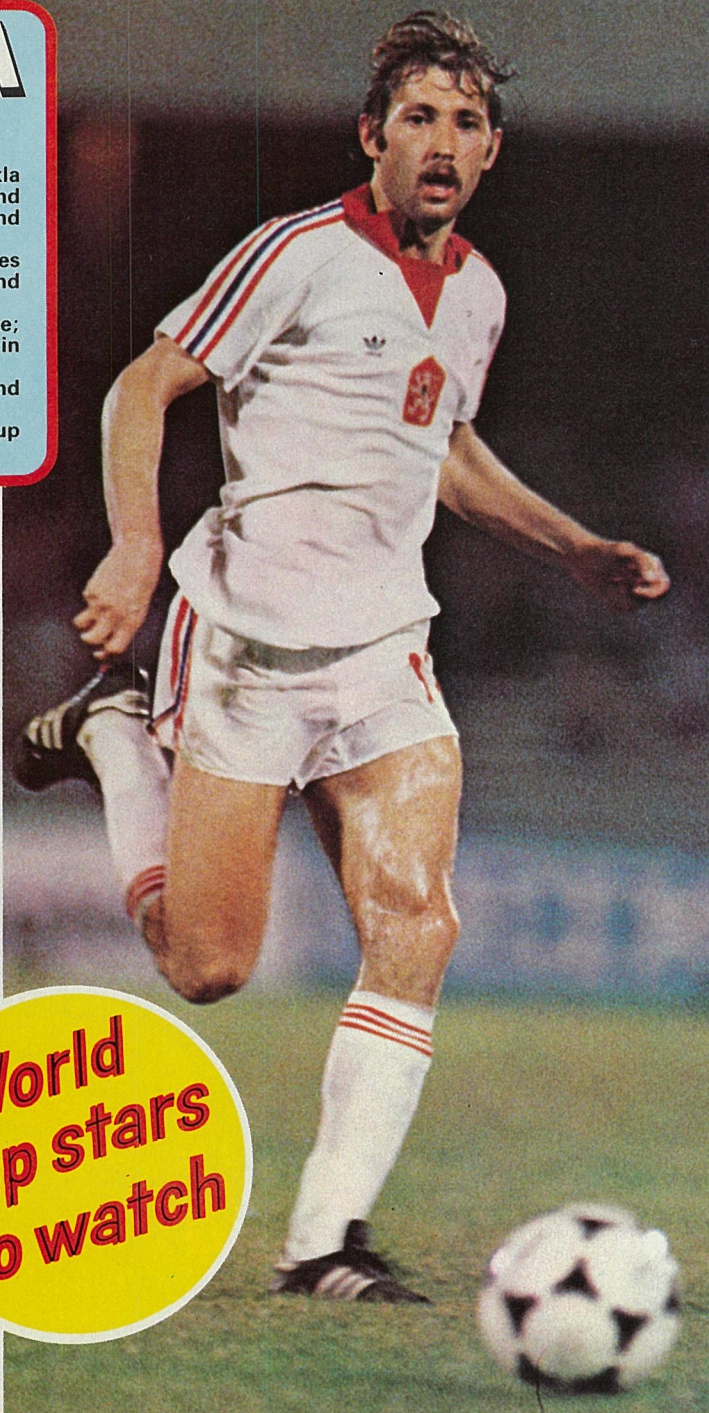
He made his international debut in 1977 in a friendly against

Hungary, but only established himself as the undisputed number one after a sensational performance in the 1980 European Championship.

Now he's all set to overhaul Iribar's record of 49 matches between the Spanish posts.

Luis was born in San Sebastian on June 26th, 1954, and has been a one-club man throughout his career.

Since making his League debut for Real Sociedad in October, 1974, Arconada has conceded on average, less than a goal per game in more than 200 appearances, including a record-breaking 20 in the whole of the 1979-80 campaign.



THERE seems to be a common belief that if England qualify for the Second Round of the World Cup Finals and then go out after an 'honourable defeat' by, say, West Germany we'll have done well.

I can assure you the players don't look at the situation like this. We feel that if we reach the second phase — and we can — then we

June 16th will dictate to a large extent the atmosphere in schools and offices everywhere in England.

The players want to prove themselves at the highest level . . . to be recognised as world-class.

Kevin Keegan, Trevor Francis and Glenn Hoddle, especially, will be keen to enhance their reputations. With that sort of ability available to us — plus a little help from Lady



BRYAN ROBSON
Writes for you

allowed to stay up late and see evening games on TV.

Like most people, I saw all of England's ties from my home in Chester-le-Street, although I never used to dream of playing for my country.

As a lad my sights were simply set

'I'LL PROVE I'M A WORLD-CLASS PLAYER'



"I'm determined to prove myself on a world wide basis in Bilbao this summer."

Luck — I see no reason why we shouldn't raise a few eyebrows in Spain.

Naturally I'm keen to build on my England career. I've had some good write-ups and publicity, although I'm aware that at the moment I'm still unknown on a worldwide basis.

I want to change that by July. I believe I can go on and prove myself against the best in the world.

Challenge

Countries such as Norway and Switzerland are looked upon as second class in world football. I realise that to be ranked alongside the world's top players I have to produce the goods when it really matters, and it's a challenge I relish.

And before anyone says it, yes I know we lost to Norway and Switzerland.

I'm sure the lessons have been learnt, especially from the game in Oslo where we were going well for 20 minutes, but then crumbled horribly.

Since then our results have been better and I can't wait for June 16th. I remember watching the 1966 Finals on television. I was just nine then and it was the first time I was

on making the grade with a League club and when I joined West Brom at 13 as a schoolboy my target was to establish myself as a First Division player.

Naturally my ambitions have widened since then!

Now I'm set to make my debut in the World Cup Finals. I don't think all the doubts about us taking part will worry the squad once we're in Bilbao. The only thing on our minds is football, not politics.

Winners? It's difficult to NOT name Brazil or West Germany. Surprise side? I'll go for Poland . . . if I can't include England!

My other World Cup hope is that our travelling fans show everyone that they CAN support their country in a sporting manner.

I'm sick of all the bad publicity that we've had and I have a suspicion that the Spanish police could over-react to the first sign of trouble.

Hopefully, they won't be needed. We don't want to worry about our fans as well as our opponents.

Bryan Robson.

could go all the way. We fear nobody.

I'm not saying we're going to win the World Cup, yet we have to believe we can. There's no point in going to Spain otherwise.

When we've played Argentina and Brazil in the past couple of years we've given a good account of ourselves. I don't think they'll relish the prospect of coming up against England, and if they do they wouldn't call us an "easy draw".

I'm fully aware of what the World Cup means to my country. That was obvious from the Hungary game at Wembley. Had we lost . . . well, I wouldn't like to consider what might have happened.

I realise that the whole mood of the nation would have changed had we not beaten Hungary to qualify for Spain.

Similarly, our result in the opening match against France on



"Brazil are my tip to win the World Cup."

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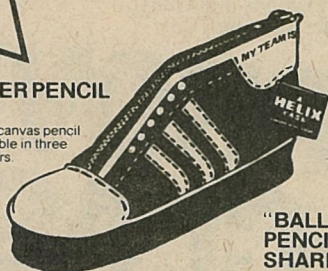


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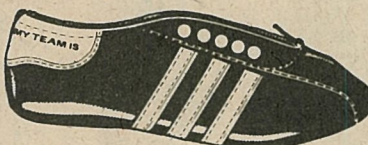
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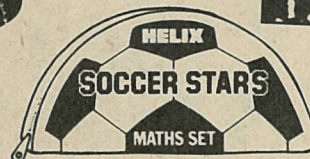


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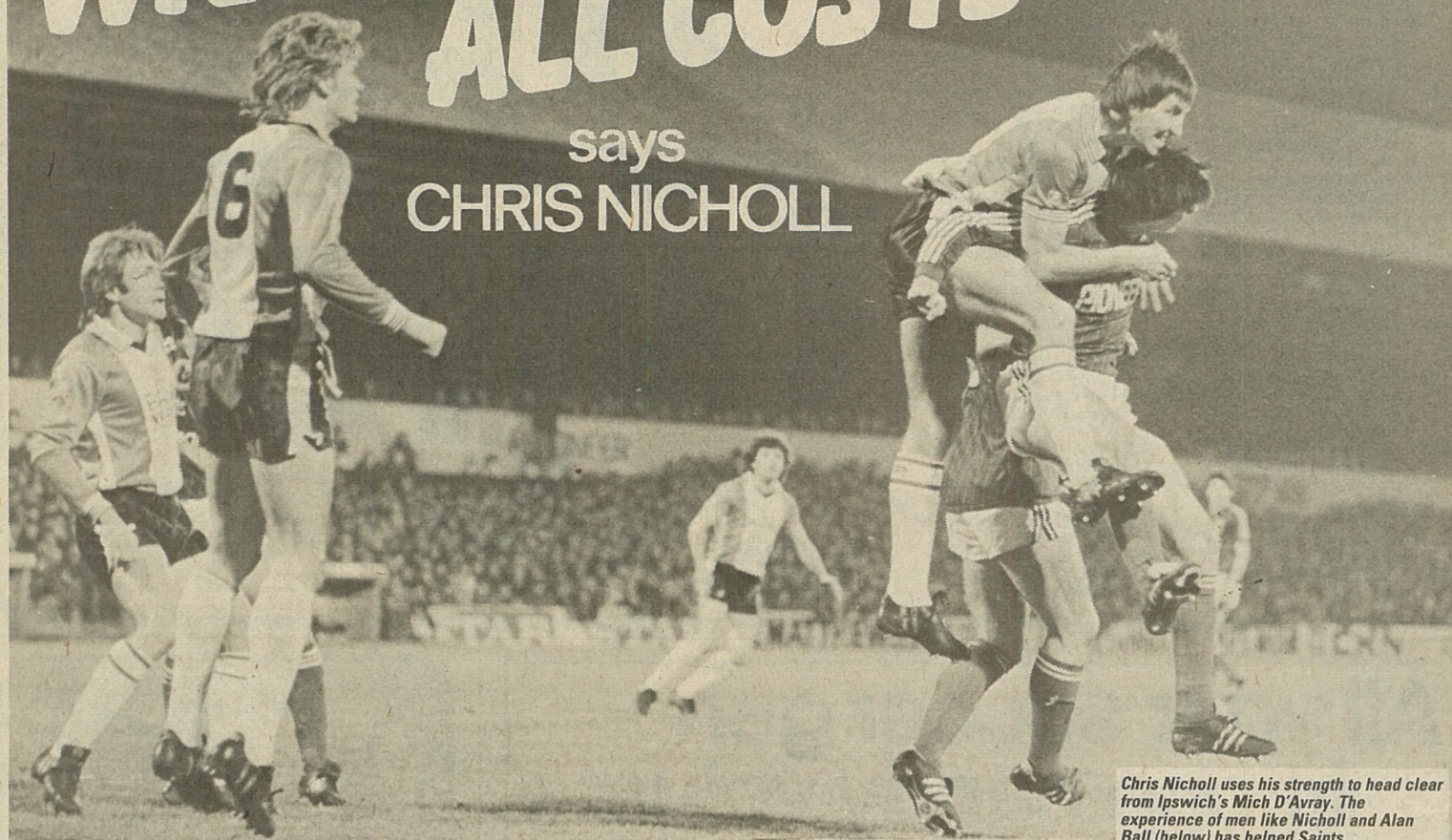
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'SAINTS WILL ENTERTAIN AT ALL COSTS'

says
CHRIS NICHOLL



Chris Nicholl uses his strength to head clear from Ipswich's Mich D'Avray. The experience of men like Nicholl and Alan Ball (below) has helped Saints.

SOUTHAMPTON will not forsake the entertaining football which has become their trademark — even if it costs them trophies! That's the assurance from Irish international defender Chris Nicholl, one of the experienced men in the Saints side.

For the third year in succession, Southampton scored more goals at home than any club in the First Division. Their fans saw a feast of attacking, entertaining football, yet at the conclusion of a long hard season all the big trophies were resting elsewhere.

Yet Nicholl says: "Although it has been an up and down campaign, I don't believe we should change our style of play. I am sure the boss won't change his ideals. He wants positive players, he likes to attack and that is great for the fans."

"I don't believe he will compromise and I don't believe he should. We have got to be more consistent. Whether that is possible, I don't know."

Saints had two bad spells in the League this season, at the start and the finish. In between, they played so well and scored so many glorious goals that they held the lead in the First Division table for almost two months. It was the first time the name of Southampton

had ever led English football's premier League.

But Nicholl admits the lack of consistency was the problem which they never quite solved. "I suppose the reason may be that we are a flair team, and we have that type of entertaining player in the side, rather than more mediocre, consistent players."

'Classic'

"When we're playing well, we are as good as any side in England but those kind of flair players tend not to produce that classic form in every game. It is not always the day for the brilliant types."

Nicholl says that there should be no doubting the resolve or determination of Saints' players to add that missing consistency.

"We love the football we play at Southampton," he says. "But as professionals we want to win trophies, too. That is what every player seeks and we are no different."



He adds: "The aim at the club is to get the right blend; in other words, win matches and be entertaining. Tottenham came very near to it until pressure of fixtures robbed them at the end of the season. But I'm sure it is possible to do."

"I'm certain of one thing — the manager and staff won't be prepared to give up attacking, entertaining football."

"The manager's job is to get the fans coming into The Dell to watch us and he must have pleased them with the football his team provided this season."

Experience

It was away from home that Saints slipped. And that was hard to understand when you consider the experience of men like Nicholl, Mike Channon, Kevin Keegan, Ivan Katalinic, Ivan Golac, Alan Ball and David Armstrong. Experienced professionals every one.

"It is hard to produce your best form for as many as 50 matches in a season. That is very difficult but doing so is something we have to aim for. We won't rest until we have solved that aspect," says Nicholl.

On the ball CROSSWORD

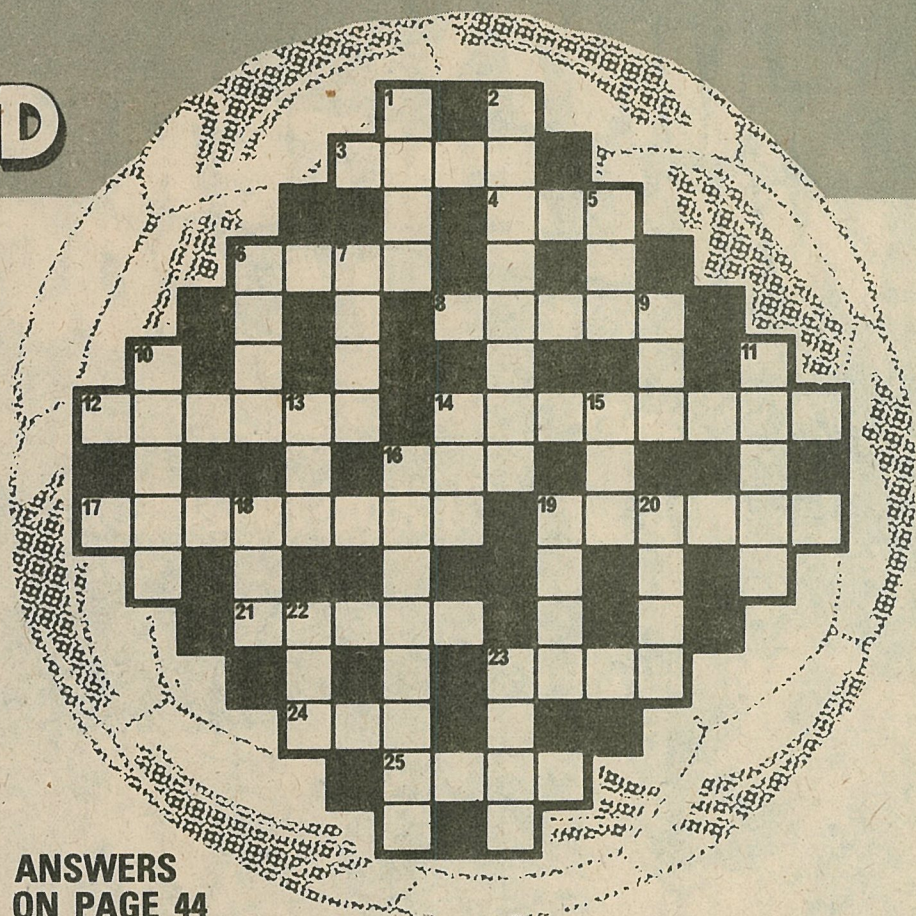
ACROSS:—

- (3) → Ainscow, Everton
midfield player. (4).
(4) Mervyn —, Orient
'keeper. (3).
(6) Venue of Liverpool's
first European Cup Final
triumph in 1977 (4).
(8) Nicky of WBA, David of
West Ham or Steve of
Shrewsbury. (5).
(12 & 14) Aston Villa
midfield player. (6).
(14) See 12. (8).
(16) Suspension from
playing, for instance. (3).
(17) Steve —, Spurs captain
(8).
(19) Ray —, Notts County
defender. (6).
(21) Paul —, Manchester City
midfield player. (5).
(23) A short measurement
from four letters to be
found in Norwich. (4).
(24) If Celtic, Reading &
Stoke make "INK"; what
do Arbroath, Burnley &
Fulham make? (3).
(25) Animal associated by
nickname with Millwall.
(4).

DOWN:—

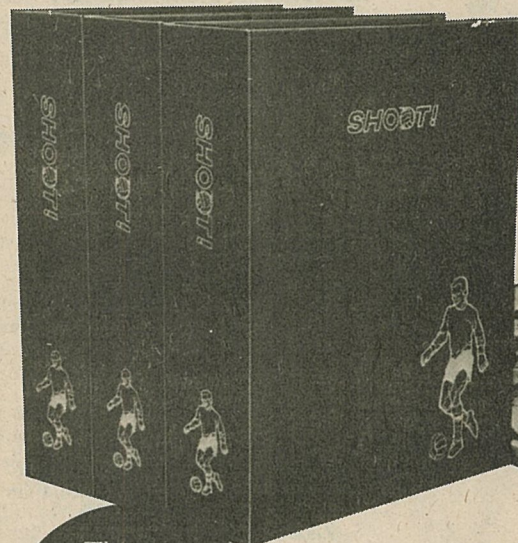
- (1) Ipswich Town colour. (4).
(2) Viv —, Nottingham
Forest defender. (8).
(5) Alan Ma —; Chelsea
striker. (3).

- (6) Gerry —, Brighton
midfielder. (4).
(7) David —, Luton Town
winger. (4).
(9) Anton Otulakow —; Southend player. (3).
(10) Fox, Stoke City 'keeper.
(5).
(11) The number of times
Aston Villa have won
the F.A. Cup. (5).
(13) If Birmingham,
Blackburn & Newcastle
make "RAW"; what will
Leicester, Coventry &
Plymouth make? (3).
(14) —sfield Town play at
the Field Mill Ground. (3).
(15) Reverse three
consecutive letters
found in Kevin Mabbutt
(Palace) to make a
container. (3).
(16) The — Ground; home of
Derby County. (8).
(18) What is required to
complete Steve G — — —
of Cardiff City? (3).
(19) Gary —, W.B.A. midfield
player. (4).
(20) Ian —, Liverpool striker.
(4).
(22) S — — — ampton play at The
Dell. (3).
(23) Take four letters from
ORIENT to make a
metal. (4).



ANSWERS
ON PAGE 44

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ROCKET MEN

Watford strikers demand First Division action

THE goalscoring partnership which has helped shoot Watford through four Divisions of the Football League may be good enough for Division One.

That's the claim from one half of the Ross Jenkins-Luther Blissett pairing — 6ft 2in Londoner Jenkins.

Goals from the two well-known strikers have helped Watford to promotion from every Division.

Now, with Watford having clinched a place in the First Division for the first time in the club's 91-year history, Jenkins says he and his colleague face the ultimate test.

"Our understanding is the key to it, and the success we have had up front," he says.

"The partnership has gone very well up to now and I don't see why we cannot give First Division defences problems.

"They are reputed to be the best in Europe, but our knowledge of each other's play, which has been built up over several years, can help us immensely.

"You can spend millions of pounds on strikers and goalscorers but any player in the business of scoring will tell you that know-

ledge of his front-line colleagues and their play is vitally important.

"Competition for places will be very healthy next season.

"Some new players are bound to come, other regular faces may leave.

"I have every hope that Luther and I will be able to do the job the boss is going to want done, even against the best defences in the land."

Jenkins says that Watford's fine record in recent seasons against teams from the First Division can be used as a guideline to their chances next season.

Ross Jenkins is looking forward to returning to the First Division after a ten-year absence.



"They have had their ups and downs, too, so it would not have been too straightforward there.

"Besides, I have enjoyed my years with Watford; there have been so many challenges.

"Now, we face the greatest test of all."

Watford were down and out, struggling in the Fourth Division, when Graham Taylor arrived as their new manager. Did he make an immediate impression on Jenkins?

"Once he came, anything became possible. I don't think anyone would have believed we would climb all the way up to the First Division so quickly, but progress was very much the word as soon as he came on the scene.

"I believe it is always possible for a club to get into a good run and maintain it.

"Swansea did it, others will do so in the future.

"You need the right set-up off the field, behind the scenes, to make it work properly.

"We certainly have that at Watford and the club deserves this chance."

Jenkins' goals have been an integral part of that rapid progress.

'Easier'

He says: "It is always difficult to score, but it becomes easier as the team gets better and things flow naturally.

"After a while, there wasn't so much onus on the strikers to get goals; the midfield and defenders proved they could, score, too, which has helped players like Luther and myself.

"I would love a few years in Division One.

"I am looking forward to it very much.

"These are exciting times, not only for me, but for everyone at Watford.

"Now we have the chance, we have to work hard enough to ensure we take advantage of it. That is the next task facing us."



Luther Blissett heads home in Watford's 4-0 defeat of Sheffield Wednesday.

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individual letters personally.

Stolen

Is it right that the F.A. Cup was stolen
around the end of the last century?

JOSEPH PHELAN,
EIRE

● Yes, it is, Joseph — though it wasn't
the famous "old tin pot" we know
today.

It was the original trophy which was
stolen in 1895, when Aston Villa were
the holders.

It was put on display in the window of
a local shop in Newton Row, Birming-
ham — from where it was stolen and
never seen again.

Its replacement was presented in 1910
to Lord Kinnaird in recognition of his
completing 21 years' service as F.A.
President — and the third, and present,
Cup has been competed for each time
since the 1911 Final.

Preston at the double

What was Preston's full record when
they became the first team to achieve
the double in 1888-89?

PAUL HUSSEY,
HULL

● Pretty useful, Paul! Preston — not
without reason nicknamed "The Invincibles"
— didn't lose a game in that first
season of the League, and didn't con-
cede a goal in the F.A. Cup.

Their full League record was — Played
22; Won 18; Drawn 4; Goals-for 75;
Goals-against 15; Points 40.

And a 0-0 draw against Accrington
was the only time any side prevented
them from scoring.

In the Cup, Preston (below) beat
Bootle 3-0 away in the First Round;
Grimsby 2-0 away in the Second; Bir-
mingham St. George's 2-0 at home in
the Third; West Bromwich 1-0 in the
Semi-Final; and Wolves 3-0 in the Final.



SHORT PASSES

● Liverpool's record win is 11-0 (v.
Stromgodset; Cup-Winners' Cup;
17th September 1974); record defeat
is 1-9 (v. Birmingham; Div Two; 11th
December 1954).

(JIM PATSOURAS, Greece)

● Celtic beat Rangers 7-1 in the
Scottish League Cup Final on 19th
October, 1957.

(DAVID HENDERSON, Strathpeffer)

Short Passes are replies to readers'
letters.

TAKE A BREAK IT'S QUIZ TIME

TROPHIES

1. Which Bulgarian club knocked
Liverpool out of the 1981-82 European
Cup at the Quarter-Final stage on a 2-1
aggregate?

Ipswich striker Paul
Mariner attacks the
Arsenal defence
during the 1978 F.A.
Cup Final. See
question 3.

2. Aston Villa, Birmingham City or
Coventry City were the first English
club to appear in the old Fairs Cup
Final? They lost on aggregate to
Barcelona in 1960.

winner in their 1-0 victory against
Arsenal in the 1978 F.A. Cup Final at
Wembley?

3. Did Colin Viljoen, Paul Mariner or
Roger Osborne score Ipswich Town's

4. Which club won the 1981-82 Fourth
Division Championship with 96 points?

5. Dennis Tueart scored a spectacular
goal with an overhead kick against
Newcastle United to clinch which
trophy for Manchester City in 1976 at
Wembley?



TRUE

OR FALSE?

1. The forthcoming World Cup Finals
in Spain will be the 13th held.

2. Swansea City were once known as
Swansea Town.

3. Scottish Premier Division clubs play
36 League games during a season.

4. Graeme Sharp finished the 1981-82
season as leading goalscorer for
Exeter City.

5. Newcastle United 'Keeper Kevin
Carr (left) has not played for any other
League club.

STRIKERS

1. Peter Davenport scored a hat-trick on
May 15 for which club against Ipswich
Town at Portman Road?



2. Tottenham striker Garth Crooks
(above) began his League career with
which club?

3. Did Kenny Dalglish or Ian Rush finish
the 1981-82 season as Liverpool's top
League goalscorer?

4. Colin West scored goals for Southend
United, Stoke City or Sunderland last
season?

5. Which striker was voted P.F.A. Player
of the Year for 1981-82?

MANAGERS

1. Can you name the former Chelsea
star who guided Motherwell to the
1981-82 Scottish First Division
Championship?

2. Bob Paisley led Liverpool to
their 13th First Division title
when they beat
Tottenham 3-1 at
Anfield on the last
Saturday of the
season. Was it Bob's
fourth, fifth or sixth
success in his eight
years in charge?

3. Who is the longest-
serving one-club
manager in the First
Division?

4. Southampton midfield
star Alan Ball had a spell
as player-manager of
which club?

5. Ron Atkinson replaced
who as manager of
Manchester United?

ON THE BALL CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

ACROSS: (3) Alan. (4)
Day. (6) Rome. (8) Cross.
(12) Dennis. (14) Mortimer.
(16) Ban. (17) Perryman.
(19) O'Brien. (21) Power.
(23) Inch. (24) Tea. (25) Lion.
DOWN: (1) Blue. (2)
Anderson. (5) Yes. (6)
Ryan. (7) Moss. (9) Ski.
(10) Peter. (11) Seven.
(13) Ivy. (14) Man. (15)
Tub. (16) Baseball. (18)
Rap. (19) Owen. (20)
Rush. (22) Out. (23) Iron.

ANSWERS

STRIKERS: 1. Nottingham Forest. 2. Stoke
City. 3. Rush. 4. Sunderland. 5.
Southampton's Kevin Keegan.
TROPHIES: 1. C.S.K.A. Sofia. 2.
Birmingham. 3. Osborne. 4. Sheffield
United. 5. Football League Cup.
MANAGERS: 1. David Hay. 2. Fifth. 3.

Ipswich's Bobby Robson. 4. Blackpool. 5.
Dave Sexton.
TRUE OR FALSE: 1. False — it will be the
12th. 2. True. 3. True. 4. False — he was
top scorer for Everton. 5. True.

FRANK Stapleton talks as though he was solely responsible for Manchester United not winning the League title.

Stapleton, United's £1 million striker, was a great hit with the Old Trafford fans.

But he fell well below his own goal target last season, leaving him frustrated and disappointed.

He says: "Towards the end of the season, there were games when we were desperate for goals to keep us in the Championship race. But we didn't get them.

"When that happens, you have got to look at your main striking partnership. At Old Trafford, that means myself and Garry Birtles.

"I set myself a target of 20 before the season started and the way I began at United, it seemed that I wouldn't have much of a problem.

"But my goals and form fell off during the second half of the season. That was very disappointing because I'd had no trouble settling in when I first arrived.

"I've never tried to hide. Whatever I might contribute to the team generally, I will always be judged by what I do in the box and how many goals I score.

"At the end of the day, I've got to admit that the goals count was below expectations."

Stapleton's goal return for games played was the worst he's ever had during the latter part of the season. And he's at a loss to explain it.

"I think the mental side comes into it a lot more when things aren't going well. You have to try and do exactly the same thing you were doing when things were going well.

"But as much as you tell yourself that, it's very difficult to do."

The atrocious weather that

NO EXCUSES!

Frank Stapleton's message to fans

could be in with a great chance of the League.

"But to blame the weather would just be an excuse. It was the same for every other team.

"I was really hoping it was going to be our season. But at the finish, we couldn't have any excuses."

The signing of Stapleton gave United a £2 million front two, linking him with Garry Birtles.

They had a golden spell when they seemed to be scoring every week. But as a pair, they were disappointing in the second half of the season.

'Adjustments'

"We had our problems and if we are ever going to get it just right, we may both have to make adjustments to our game.

"We were both used to different styles at our previous clubs. Garry played more with the midfield men at Forest and he tends to link with them more than me at United.

"I've always been used to playing closely with another front runner. At Arsenal, I had partnerships with Malcolm Macdonald and Alan Sunderland.

"I have to be disappointed with my first season at Old Trafford, both from a personal and a team point of view.

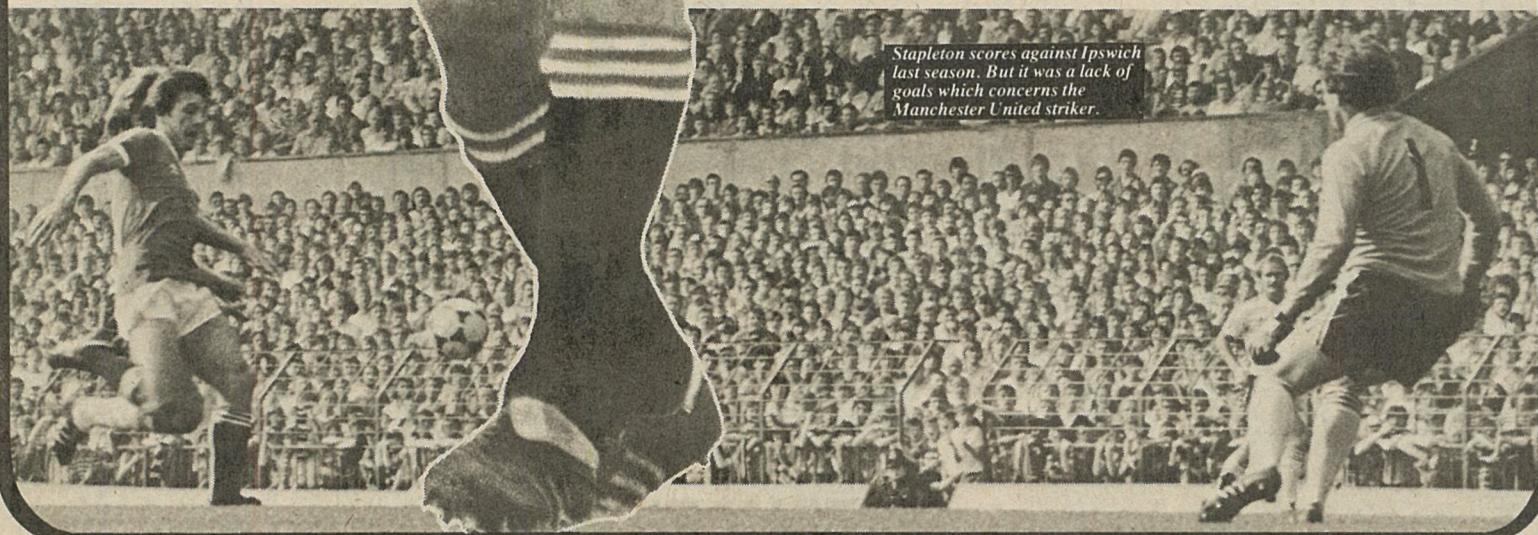
"But one consolation is that we earned a place in Europe. And I'm hoping things will go much better for us next term."

interrupted the League programme around Christmas time upset United more than any other team.

They were well into their flow at the time, looking like a team that could easily win the title. They slammed five goals at Sunderland before the two-week break before the England-Hungary World Cup game. Then came the bad weather.

Says Stapleton: "We were playing well then and I thought we

Stapleton scores against Ipswich last season. But it was a lack of goals which concerns the Manchester United striker.



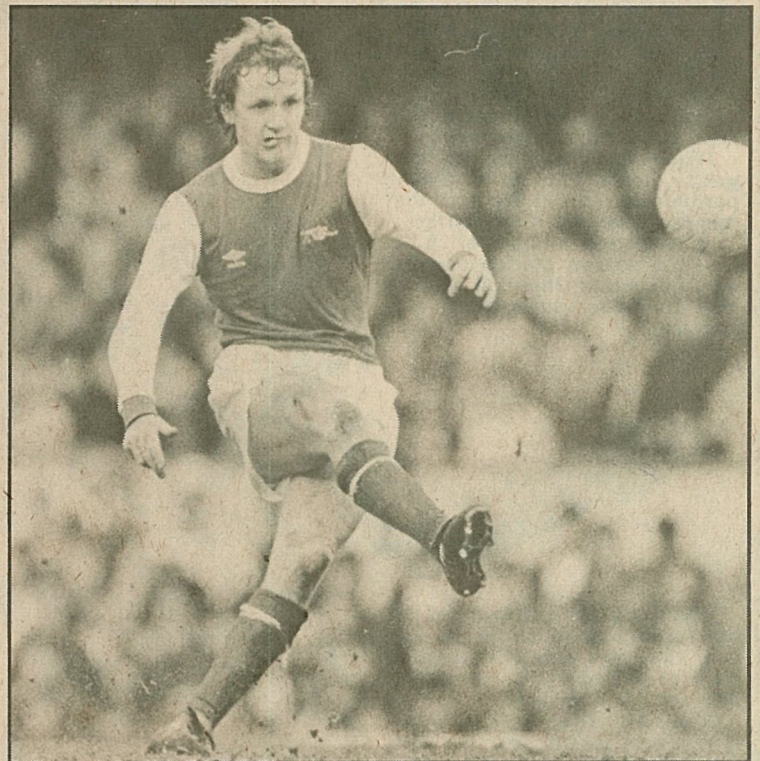
PETER NICHOLAS Reluctant to quit Arsenal

PETER Nicholas admits: "I'm worried — and I'm disappointed. Playing in the reserves at Arsenal, or even being substitute on the bench, just isn't good enough. I have to play first team football somewhere."

The 22-year-old powerhouse midfielder player for Arsenal and Wales looked set for a decade of greatness at one of the world's finest clubs: now he is fighting with every ounce of that famed competitive 'steel' to preserve his career at Highbury.

Gunners manager Terry Neill has signed Yugoslav international Vladimir Petrovic and there is speculation that other changes are going to be made in the midfield department.

"It is all very unsettling," states Nicholas.



TERRY McDermott owns up that it will break his heart when the time comes for him to leave Liverpool — but he is not prepared to admit that his career at Anfield is over.

He was linked with two French clubs, Bordeaux and Paris St. Germaine, but refused to move to the Continent despite lucrative offers.

"I was flattered by their interest," he says. "And I gave the offers serious thought, but decided that if I'm going anywhere then it will almost certainly be in this country."

"I want to make it plain that I don't want to leave Liverpool."

TERRY McDERMOTT The agony of leaving

"I suppose you could say that it looks as though the door is slowly closing," says the England international. "But I'm not thinking in terms of leaving just yet."

McDermott, one of only a handful of players to have appeared in three European Cup Finals, has enjoyed enormous success since joining his boyhood idols from Newcastle a few months after the 1974 F.A. Cup Final, when he was on the losing side with the Geordies.

Despite another 20 goals last season during Liverpool's charge on the League title, McDermott lost his place as the campaign drew to a close.

"When the time comes it will break my heart, but I'll just have to be big enough to get on with life."

"Liverpool have made me available, but I'm not prepared to concede that I'm at the end of the road at Anfield just yet. I've a year of my present contract left and I believe I could still force my way back into the first team."

McDermott lost his place, through injury, in early April, and never managed to force his way back in. On the last Saturday of the season, when Liverpool beat Tottenham to win the title, McDermott was only 13th man.

"That hurt a little," he says. "I wanted to join in the celebrations after the game. After all, I played in 28 League games this season. But I just couldn't bring myself to walk on to the pitch. I didn't feel part of the afternoon."

"I hate the thought of leaving Arsenal, especially if it means drifting into the Second Division.

"That is not to say that the Second is a bad Division — it isn't. It is just that when you have had a year playing for Arsenal, you have tasted life at the top.

"After that experience, it is hard to accept that it might not be forever. One thing you'll never hear from me is 'stick' against Arsenal.

"Even with all my problems at the end of the season, it is easy to see why no player who leaves Highbury turns round and has a go at the club.

"It has half a century of magnificent traditions; superb facilities; unequalled treatment of players. Everything at Highbury comes together to make those who play for the club realise that they are lucky enough to belong to the best."

Nor has Nicholas a word of complaint about manager Terry Neill. "Obviously, I've got to sort out my future with him, but he has done well for me since the day I signed from Crystal Palace."

Nicholas did reappear in Arsenal's first team before the end of the season.

He took over from Paul Davis who had a cluster of stitches above a cut eye — and Nicholas responded to his recall against Liverpool by exhibiting that fierce resilience in a perpetual motion display.

"But it was sad to think that the only way I could get back in was through injury," he reflects.

"I've set myself one standard for next season whether I'm at Arsenal or somewhere else: to work even harder, find another gear if that's

possible... and get back to where I was."

Football is a game of switchback fortunes and no one appreciates that more than Nicholas.

He ended the 1980-81 season as Arsenal's latest big signing; looking ahead to a Championship challenge; on his way to the World Cup Finals with Wales.

"It all goes to show just how quickly life can change," he says.

"After Arsenal's third place finish to 1980-81, it seemed as if we were set for everything going.

Fighter

"We were strongly rated for the UEFA Cup and looking to a strong title challenge in the First Division: instead it all fell away and we ended up without a thing."

But Nicholas is every inch a fighter. Although Wales lost to England in the recent international at Ninian Park, he worked up and down the pitch with spirited skill.

Then at the end of the season, he happily waved goodbye to his Arsenal team-mates as they jetted away to Trinidad and Tobago.

"Yes, I know that sounds a dream way to end a season... but the real football is here. That is why I would not have swapped a dozen tours to the Caribbean for the chance to play internationals against Scotland and Northern Ireland.

"I love playing for Wales. After the setback at Arsenal, it did me the world of good to be involved at international level. Chances like that all help me prove my point... that I'm good enough at the highest level."

described himself at the time.

Without question, McDermott has surprised himself.

"I never thought I would be an international," he says. "Not even when I came to Anfield. I owe that to Ron Greenwood, and a lot more

besides. Whenever I've been having a bad time he has stood by me."

McDermott appeared in all the games when England qualified for the World Cup Finals.

He is a fun-loving character who likes to enjoy himself, on and off the field. He has his own very individual style of celebrating goals.

"If I leave Anfield that's one of the things that I'll miss most," says McDermott. "Everybody at the club is very easy to get on with. We enjoy the game, and that's very important. We can laugh at each other's mistakes — and I like to do that, especially when we're winning."

Liverpool were prepared to accept £200,000 from the French clubs interested in McDermott. After the World Cup Finals he will think again about his future and if Liverpool are still in the mood to part company there will be no shortage of buyers.

Ideally, however, McDermott will still be part of Liverpool's challenge for a 14th Championship win.



BIG NEWS ABOUT THE BIG KICK-OFF

Next week's World Cup special edition of **SHOOT** will be previewing the Finals as they get under way. And, like the competition itself, it's a real winner

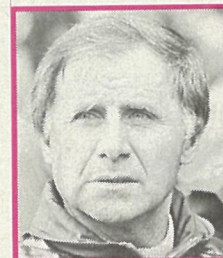
KEVIN KEEGAN winds-up our exclusive and much-praised World Cup captains series with his thoughts about England

DIEGO MARADONA tells why he's sure he'll confirm his status as the world's Number One star — and why Argentina will retain their trophy

RAY WILKINS explains why he's confident England will do well

DOMINIQUE ROCHETEAU The French playboy with super skill

MICHEL HIDALGO The manager of France (right) who's been busy plotting England's downfall — we give you an insight into Ron Greenwood's opposite number



DANNY McGRAIN On Scotland's opening tie against New Zealand — "If we don't beat the Kiwis then we don't deserve to qualify for the Second Round."

THE KIWI SCOTS Two Scottish-born New Zealand stars — Alan Boath and Sam Malcolmson — tell how it feels to be playing against the country of their birth

NORTHERN IRELAND HAVE NO CHANCE Harsh words from Yugoslavia manager Miljan Miljanic

PAT JENNINGS Good news for the Irish — Big Pat's fit again after almost five months on the sidelines

JOE JORDAN The Scotland striker is staying with AC Milan, despite his problems and their relegation to the Italian Second Division

WORLD CUP ROUND-UP Latest news and views of the Finals

WORLD CUP FACTS & FIGURES — All you need to know

AND AWAY FROM THE WORLD CUP ..

GARY SHAW on Aston Villa's European Cup Final — plus the best colour photos from Rotterdam

IPSWICH TOWN manager Bobby Robson gives the reasons why they didn't win the Championship

WEST BROMWICH ALBION: Why they were nearly relegated

THE NEW HAMMER Profile on Sandy Clark, West Ham's latest signing from Scotland

ENGLAND v HOLLAND Colour action from Wembley

DON'T MISS SHOOT — THE SOCCER MAGAZINE OTHERS CAN'T MATCH

Liverpool

"Of course I was delighted for the lads on duty, and the club in general, but I felt out on a limb."

McDermott's own free-running style from the midfield, that has brought about some spectacular goals, made him a great favourite with the Kop, from where he supported Liverpool as a boy.

Since then McDermott has won enough medals to fill two or three trophy cabinets, and despite the fact that he is now 30 he believes there are a few years left in him yet.

"I can play in the First Division for another four or five years," he says. "I'm lucky because I'm a naturally fit athlete. I enjoy running and hard work on a Saturday afternoon. I enjoy life as well, but my social life has never interfered with my job."

'Better'

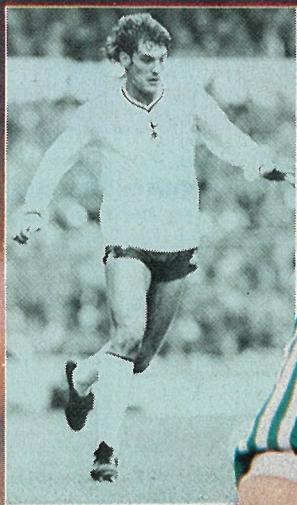
"I believe I can still score 20-25 goals a season in top flight football. I would have done better than that last season if I had stayed in the side."

McDermott remains the only player to have won the PFA and the Football Writers Association 'Footballer of the Year' awards in the same season. Not bad for a "rag-bag of a footballer" as he

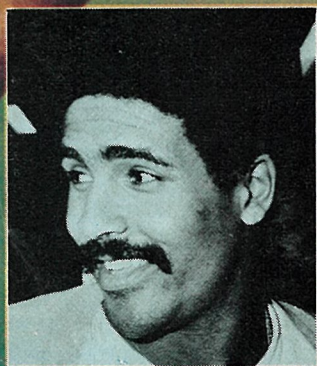
**Super
Focus**

GERRY ARMSTRONG

**N. Ireland
and Watford**



Glenn
Hoddle



Daley
Thompson

FULL NAME: Gerard Joseph Armstrong
BIRTHPLACE: Belfast, Northern Ireland
BIRTHDATE: May 23, 1954
HEIGHT: 6 feet
WEIGHT: 12st 12lbs
MARRIED: Yes, to Ann
CHILDREN: Two sons — Ciaran (5) and Brendan (3)
CAR: Ford Cortina
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Bangor FC and Tottenham
JOB OR TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Senior clerical officer
NICKNAME: 'Sylvest'
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Mirror
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Glenn Hoddle for his outstanding natural skills
PLAYERS FOR THE FUTURE: Steve Terry and John Barnes (Watford)
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Tottenham
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Mick Jones of Leeds
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Tennis
OTHER SPORTS PERSON YOU MOST ADMIRE: Olympic Champion Daley Thompson
YOUR BEST EVER ALL TIME XI: Jennings, McGrain, Krol, Beckenbauer, Cooper, Jairzinho, Cruyff, Charlton, Pele, Law, Best
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: November, 1981. N. Ireland 1 Israel 0 at Belfast. I scored the goal which secured our World Cup place.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Tottenham losing to Liverpool in the F.A. Cup Quarter-Final in 1980
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Ipswich
BEST STADIUM PLAYED IN: 'Stadium of Light', Benfica, Portugal
FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Beef stroganoff, white wine
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES . . . DISLIKES: Crosswords, relaxing and watching TV . . . Smoking and traffic jams
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Abba, Olivia Newton-John
FAVOURITE ACTOR . . . ACTRESS: Lee Marvin and Genevieve Bujold
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Tel Aviv, Israel
BEST FILM SEEN RECENTLY: 'Coma'
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Not The Nine O'Clock News and Blake's Seven
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Doing odd jobs around the house
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Graham Taylor, who has taught me a lot since I came to Watford
SUPERSTITIONS: None
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Nearly 40 full caps for N. Ireland
PERSONAL AMBITION: To do well in the First Division with Watford and play in an F.A. Cup Final
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? Don't know, probably teaching
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Something to do with sport
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? No one in particular

SHOOT!